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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

A TURLEY PUBLICATION I www.turley.com

Volume 106 • Number 12

www.sentinel.turley.com



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# Belchertown GRADS PHOTOS ET MELINA BOUNDARY THE LINE OF THE LINE BOUNDARY THE LINE BOUNDARY

### Urged to 'be yourself, fully and unapologetically'

MELINA BOURDEAU

BELCHERTOWN – With their loved ones on chairs and blankets on the football field, Belchertown High School graduates sat in the bleachers for this year's outdoor graduation ceremony, being the spectacle rather than the spectators.

Included among the classes' senior week activities were award's night, the senior walk through, senior video presentation and others.

Despite having another school year impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, graduates remarked on their accomplishments and futures.

Principal Christine Vigneux

opened the ceremony by commenting on a once-every-100-years event – a consecutive integer graduation

"In the last year like this, 1920, women in the United States won the right to vote, Now we have a woman who serves as the vice president,"

See **GRADUATION**, page 15 •



TOP: Belchertown High School graduates sing their class song, "I lived" by OneRepublic.

Belchertown High School Salutatorian Ashley Messier spoke about being oneself fully and authentically in her speech.

### **GRANBY**

# TM opts to keep strong chief law

MELINA BOURDEAU

Staff writer

GRANBY – Voters opted to pay off a settlement with former Fire Chief John Mitchell and to stay with the strong chief law at the Granby Annual Town Meeting last weekend under the tent in front of Granby High School.

In two separate warrant articles, voters took up a \$225,000 settlement with former Fire Chief John Mitchell using free cash. The motion passed by a majority.

Granby Town Administrator Chris Martin said the decision will allow the town to move forward with the process of hiring a new permanent chief.

"Because he was hired under (the strong chief law) he remains the chief until he resigns, retires, dies, reaches 65 or can be terminated for just cause as the town has been in litigation with him since July 2020," Martin said. "This will allow the Selectboard to close litigation and getting the fire department fully operational."

Resident Rich Domeracki asked how much free cash was available. As of July 2020, the amount of certified free cash was \$1,353,314.

"I hope the Selectboard learns that contracts made by the Selectboard have to be in detail listing certain criteria," Domeracki said. "For instance, we could terminate someone for just cause, what does just cause mean? It needs be detailed so the town doesn't have to pay our

See GRANBY ATM, page 13 •

### BELCHERTOWN

# Town Hall reopening on June 14, daily 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

KIMBERLY PALMUCCI

Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Town Hall will reopen on Monday, June 14, but residents are encouraged to call ahead before visiting.

During its Monday meeting, the Belchertown SelectBoard voted to reopen the building from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., following recommended health protocols. Board members described this return to normalcy as "good," although there may be some staffing issues and it is a good idea for visitors to call ahead. The Senior Center and the library are in the midst of planning openings on their parts, according to meeting discus-

In other news, remote meetings were also a topic of discussion. Gov. Charlie Baker has

signed an executive order terminating the commonwealth's State of Emergency effective Tuesday, June 15. He also filed legislation to extend certain emergency measures currently in place via executive orders that are set to expire on June 15 with the end of the State of Emergency. The bill would extend measures providing for a temporary suspension of certain open meeting law requirements and more.

Several board members stated that they believe it is a good idea to allow for remote participation and that there was no apparent downside to remote participation.

"I think you know where I stand on this," added Select Board Member Ronald Aponte, who had joined the meeting

See **REOPENING**, page 9 •



PHOTO BY MELINA BOURDEAU

Granby Town Administrator Chris Martin reads a warrant article Annual Town













The Belchertown Public Schools is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals are free for all children and teens 18 and younger. Children do not need to attend Belchertown Public Schools or be approved for Free or Reduced Price meals at school to participate. Meals will be provided at the sites and times as follows:

Grab n Go lunches will be available for curbside pickup **OUTSIDE** Chestnut Hill Community School from 1130am-12pm every weekday starting Monday, 6/28 until Friday, 8/20. No Service 7/5. Look for our tent and hot pink sign. You may arrive by car, on foot, bicycle, skateboard, etc and will have the option to also receive a shelf stable breakfast to eat the following day. Children do not need to be present to receive meals. We will operate a **CLOSED** site inside of Chestnut Hill Community School for local camps only, so that we may adhere to DESE regulations for safely feeding children in school. Delivery of weekly meal kits is available to those who request it. See http://www.belchertownps.org/district/food-service/summer-eats for more information.

The Summer Eats menu will be published in the paper, posted online at www.belchertownps.org, and sent home with students in June.

Please join us for our Kickoff event on July 1st with entertainment, prizes, and of course FREE LUNCH!

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Subscriptions \$31 per year pre-paid (\$36 out of state)

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www.sentinel.turley.com



The Sentinel is published by

### **COMMUNITY**

# Town's new fire chief sworn in

KIMBERLY PALMUCCI

Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – Belchertown's new Fire Chief John Ingram was sworn in during a ceremony earlier this week.

Select Board Member Ronald Aponte, who served on the Fire Chief Search Committee, said that as the committee was interviewing candidates and reviewing qualifications, one name and one person "kept rising to the top."

"As a committee, we only recommended one person to the SelectBoard for the position of Fire Chief," Aponte said, adding that this is "very unique" and shows how qualified Ingram was.

Ingram started in his role in May, and Aponte said the town "didn't even have to wait a week" for Ingram to show that he was certainly the right man for the job. At the end of May, the town was faced with a situation in which a beaver dam broke and washed out a large section of Gulf Road.

Aponte said that Ingram was notified of the issue and personal-

ly went there, took control of the situation, and helped organize the response. He was also able to get state organizations and agencies involved.

"There was definitely a weight lifted off my shoulders personally...that yes, we did in fact choose the right person for the job," Aponte added, further describing Ingram as qualified and experienced.

Ingram spoke briefly during the ceremony and thanked his family, members of Belchertown Fire, the search committee, and more who have helped him get where he is in his career.

"It's very rewarding," he said. "I truly appreciate everybody who has helped me get here."

### Other appointments

In other news, the Belchertown SelectBoard also made several other appointments at its recent meeting. To fill a vacancy in the Fire Department for the position of firefighter/paramedic, the board voted to appoint Madison Dexter as a full-time firefighter/EMT.

The Police Department saw two appointments during the meeting, one police lieutenant and one police sergeant. The Select Board appointed Sgt. Michael Beaupre to the rank of police lieutenant and promoted Officer Dennis Fitzgerald to the rank of police sergeant, both effective Friday, June 11.

The board voted to approve Rachel Chagnon as the new manager of the Belchertown VFW Post 8428. The board also voted to appoint a DPW mechanic; Russell Carter was approved to a mechanic truck driver position.

During its meeting, the SelectBoard also began its annual appointments. The board voted to reappoint individuals on many boards and commissions, including members of the Agricultural Commission, the Animal Control Advisory Board, the Belchertown Overcoming Addiction Together (BOAT) Committee, the Community Preservation Committee, and others.

# BCTV fixes still in progress

BELCHERTOWN – After the lighting strike last week, there are still repairs needed to get Belchertown Community Television completely fixed

BCTV Manager Lou Louraine said he called Charter to see if there were getting a BCTV signal.

"I was told audio yes, video no. Tuesday, Channel 192 and 193 video were fixed," Louraine said. "I thought everything would be back to normal; nope, no audio on Channel 192 or 193.

Louraine said he reached out to Valley Communication looking for a certified technician versus trying to repair it himself.

These repairs were scheduled for Tuesday this week.

"Channel 192 is effectively dead no audio, no recording meetings for later rebroadcast," he said. "Channel 193 does not have audio but it is the weather channel and no audio is okay for now."

# Walk-ins (and fly-ins) welcome.

Virtual visits, too.



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### COMMUNITY

# Set sail at first summer reading event

BELCHERTOWN - The Clapp Memorial Library will be kicking off Tails and Tales, our summer reading program for children under 12 years old, with a day all about whales.

Whalemobile—interactive virtual programs on Friday, June 18

Cynde McInnis, aka the whale lady, will teach participants all about Nile, a real humpback whale, and how each of us can better take care of our oceans.

• The Tale of the Tail of the Humpback at 9:30 a.m. for ages 5 to 9 • The Tale of the Tail of the Humpback at 11 a.m. ages 10 to 12

Registration is required for both Zoom programs. McInnis will bring us inside her life-size inflatable of Nile and engage child in a fun session with lots of time for questions. Families will receive an email a special email from McInnis so prepare for the fun. Register at www.clapplibrary.org

Going On a Whale Watch at 1 p.m. All are welcome.

McInnis has led over 2,000 whale watch trips out of Gloucester. The group will "virtually" leave Gloucester Harbor and head out to sea



**COURTESY IMAGE** 

The Clapp Memorial Library summer reading program kicks off on June 18.

aboard the Privateer IV from Seven Seas Whale Watch. The group will learn about the species of whales that are observed off the coast of Massachusetts. They will discuss why they are there, see videos of behaviors they do, and learn about individual humpback whales. If you have never been on a whale watch, this is a close second. Zoom link will be posted on

the CML's Facebook page on June 17 or request it by email, jwhitehead@ cwmars.org.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Belchertown Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

### Belchertown Fair Committee hopes people can 'flock to the fair'

BELCHERTOWN - Fingers crossed we will "Flock to the Fair" this year on Sept. 24, 25 and 26.

The Belchertown Fair Committee continues to forge ahead with high hopes. The Exhibit Hall will be accepting items made in the past 24 months instead of the usual 12 months due to last year's cancelation, so the Exhibit Hall will be brimming with two years of handcrafted items, baked goods, canning, photography and much more with your participa-

They are encouraging online entries using the website belchertownfair.com proceed to the dropdown Exhibit Hall to enter.

The complete book is available along with entry forms, instructions and contacts for additional assistance. Printed books will be available soon.

Looking for persons interested in demonstrating their talents, skills or informational topics in the hall throughout the weekend. Contact Wendy at chevalierwendy@yahoo. com if interested.

There will be a list and map of Belchertown farm stands available in the Exhibit Hall throughout

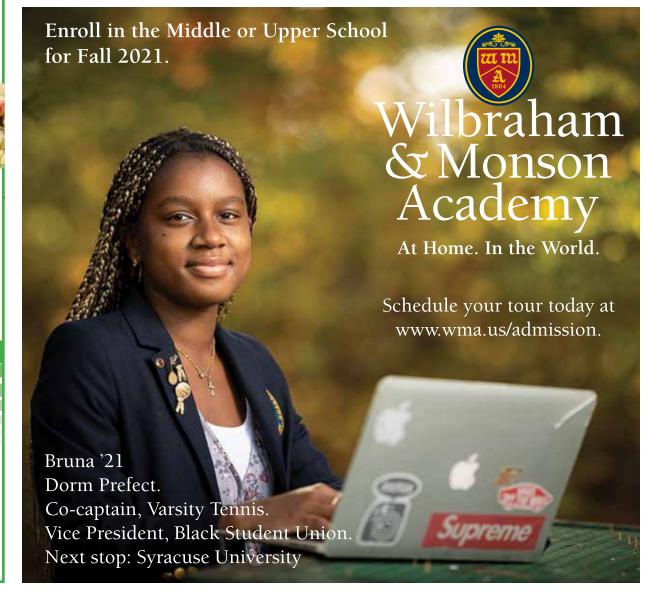
the weekend. If you have a roadside stand at your home or a business please send name, address and items sold to chevalierwendy@yahoo.com.

The Belchertown Fair Committee is seeking volunteers as well for tent and Exhibit Hall set up Sunday, Sept. 19, various help during the week Sept. 20 to 26 and Exhibit Hall take down Sunday, Sept. 26 from 4 to 6

### Lions to host meatball grinder fundraiser

BELCHERTOWN - The Belchertown Lions Club will hold a second drive-thru/pickup Meatball Grinder sale on Saturday, June 12 from 12 to 5 p.m. on the grounds of the Belchertown United Church of Christ. The ticket is \$10 includes the sub, chips and beverage...and there's no need to pre-order.

As always, all proceeds from the club's fundraising events go to charity...and this year in particular there will be several graduating seniors receiving \$1,500 Lions Club scholarships to help continue their education.



# College NOTES

### Hannah Pomerantz graduates from Assumption University

WORCESTER - Hannah Pomerantz, of Granby, was one of nearly 400 graduates to receive a bachelor's degree during Assumption University's 104th Commencement exercises on Sunday, May 9, at the DCU Center in downtown Worcester. Pulitzer Prize-winning and nationally syndicated Washington Post columnist George F. Will, Ph.D., delivered what he called the "last Assumption lecture for which you will be a captive audience" to the Class of 2021, in which he urged the graduates to live in the present while also imagining the past. The Class of 2021 is the first to graduate from Assumption University, which transitioned from Assumption College last year.

### Quinn Kenneally receives Springfield College award

SPRINGFIELD - Springfield College Senior Quinn Kenneally of Belchertown earned the Springfield College Humanities and Social Sciences Distinguished Senior Award.

Kenneally received the honor at the recent Springfield College Academic Awards held on campus. The Distinguished Senior Awards are presented annually to graduating students who have performed consistently well in the classroom. The award recipients are chosen by their respective peers in their individual department.

### Sunjae Ha earns University of Nebraska-Lincoln degree

LINCOLN, NE - Sunjae Ha of Belchertown was among 3,512 graduates who received degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln during commencement exercises May 7 and 8.

Ha earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with distinction from the College of

The graduates are from 58 countries, 43 states and the District of Columbia, and more than 250 Nebraska



### Jessica Ha named to fall Deans' List at Nebraska

LINCOLN, NE - Jessica Ha of Belchertown has been named to the Deans' List at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the fall semester of the 2020-21

Ha, a senior majoring in international business, was named to the Dean's List for the College of Business.

Nearly 6,800 students at Nebraska have been named to the Deans' List for the fall semester.

### Massachusetts students named 2021 U.S. Presidential Scholars

U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Miguel Cardona today announced the 57th class of U.S. Presidential Scholars, recognizing 161 high school seniors for their accomplishments in academics, the arts and career and technical education fields.

The Massachusetts scholars include:

• Arden E. Lloyd, Amherst Regional High School, Amherst, Massachusetts (U.S. Presidential Scholar in

### **CISA helps SNAP recipients** find where to use HIP benefits

REGION - CISA has launched a new resource to help Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program customers use their SNAP benefits to earn Healthy Incentives Program by buying local produce.

This new, user-friendly map identifies authorized HIP vendors in the Pioneer Valley, and is updated monthly, or as new information comes in about farmers' markets, farm stands, and CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture). This ensures customers have timely, accurate information about HIP businesses where they can buy

"HIP gives Massachusetts SNAP customers an instant rebate when they buy fruits and vegetables from participating local vendors. Because so many of the vendors operate seasonally, there's a real need for HIP customers to be able to find up-to-date information about HIP vendors that are open near them," says Sarah Lucia, the CISA TerraCorps member. The HIP Map, which can be found at buy-

See CISA, page 25 •

### Resilient water supply event

BELCHERTOWN – Join the Belchertown Water District and Conservation Commission for some family-friendly activities to learn about water supply protection, water conservation, and the project to replace the Park Street Water Tank on June 13 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Belchertown Common.

For more information, contact the Belchertown Conservation Commission at 413-323-0405 or https://www. belchertown.org/conservation/index.php.

This event is being conducted as part of the Town of Belchertown's FY21

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Action Grant - Enhancing Water Supply Reliability: Resilient Water Storage and Water Conservation Design and Implementation.

The event is hosted by the Belchertown Conservation Commission and Belchertown Water District.

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### **LITERACY**

Literacy is mostly defined as the ability to read and write. Students need literacy in order to engage with the written word in everyday life.

### Ways to support literacy development:

- Reading begins at birth
- Literacy development should be a combined effort between home and school
- Discuss the text together
- · Discussing what has been read, encourages learners to make connections and think about the ideas contained in the text

### You can use games and activities to support literacy development.

- Make letters out of blocks
- · Connect the dots with letters
- Salt tray writing
- Alphabet sensory bins
- Fingerprint letters
- Letter Bingo
- Beginning sounds paint sticks

Building literacy and language skills, helps children become kindergarten ready. When they enter school, they have a love for books and are ready to learn. This is important for school success, because eventually they move from learning to read, to reading to learn. If children struggle with reading, they struggle with learning.

Start introducing children to literacy once they are born. Reading to them, talking to them, singing to them, showing them how to write their names. Write down their stories. Teaching them the alphabet and letter sounds, playing with letter sounds and so on.

How can we help develop the initial stage of learning in our children? Read, read, read! Reading to your child opens them up to a world of imagination and developmental readiness, toward print awareness and learning. Reading does not have to become "lesson time", just enjoy a book together.

Reading development and skills by age.

Keeping in mind that kids develop reading skills at their own pace, so they may not be on the following timetable.

### Babies 0-12 months

- Begin to reach for soft-covered books
- Look at and touch the pictures
- Will coo and make vocal sounds
- Help turn the pages

### **Toddlers 1-2 years old**

- · Look at pictures and name familiar items
- Answer questions about what they
- Recognize the covers of favorite books
- Recite the words and they favorite
- Start pretending to read

### Preschoolers 3 -4 years

- Know the correct way to hold a book
- Understand the words are read from left to right and top to bottom
- Start to notice words that rhyme
- Retell stories
- Recognize about half of the alphabet
- Start matching letter sounds to letters
- They may start to recognize their name in print

### Kindergarten 5 years

- Match each letter to a word Start matching words they hear to
- words they see on the page Sound out simple words
- Start to recognize some words by
- · Retell a story in order
- Predict what happens next
- . Start reading or asking to be read to

I believe that if teachers and parents use this timetable as a guide, it will increase the chances of children becoming literate. This will provide a solid foundation before entering grammar school and higher education.

> Diane Burton, Director **Bright Beginnings Challenger Explorers**



### OPINION

#### **SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS**

### Will my retirement benefits be cut because of my state pension?

**RUSSELL GLOOR** Guest columnist

**Dear Rusty:** I took early retirement at 20 years from the Louisiana public school system in 1996. Since then, I have continued to work in private schools, except for two years in public schools. I now have over 20 years in the Social Security system. Are they going to take money out of my tiny early state retirement check or lower my Social Security check? Is it true I can continue working and draw Social Security? I have reached full retirement age - I am 68. Signed: State Retiree

Dear State Retiree: There are 27 US states (including Louisiana) which, to varying degrees, do not require state employees to contribute to the federal Social Security program. Retirees in those states with a pension earned while not contributing to Social Security, and who still earn enough Social Security credits (from other work) to be eligible for Social Security benefits, are affected by a regulation known as the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), which reduces the amount of your Social Security payment. So, the answer to your question is yes, your Social Security benefit will be reduced as a result of your LA state pension and WEP (your LA retirement benefit won't be affected).

The amount of the reduction to your Social Security benefit will depend upon the number of years of "significant" earnings you have been contributing to the Social Security program. With 20 or fewer years of Social Security-covered earnings, you would incur the maximum WEP reduction, which is either a) 50% of your state pension amount, or b) the maximum WEP reduction for your "eligibility year" (the year you turned 62, which I believe was 2015). In the case of b), the maximum WEP reduction to your Social Security benefit would be \$413/month.

Since you say you have "over 20 years" contributing to Social Security, be aware that the size of the WEP reduction to your Social Security will be smaller for each year over 20 that you have significant Social Security-covered earnings. For example, with 21 years of Social Security earnings, your WEP reduction would be \$371/month; with 25 years of Social Security contributions your WEP reduction would be \$206/month; and with 30 years of Social Security contributions, WEP would no longer apply. As you can see, the WEP reduction to your Social Security benefit decreases proportionally with each year over 20 that you have significant earnings and contribute to Social Security, and WEP disappears with 30 years of significant Social Security earnings

Be aware that WEP will not affect you until you are collecting both your state pension and your Social Security benefit, and that for each full year you continue to work and contribute to Social Security the WEP reduction will diminish. And since you've passed your full retirement age you can collect Social Security and work without your benefits being affected. But, in any case, you shouldn't delay claiming your Social Security benefit past age 70 because that is when your Social Security benefit will reach maximum.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

# Late spring questions for the Garden Lady

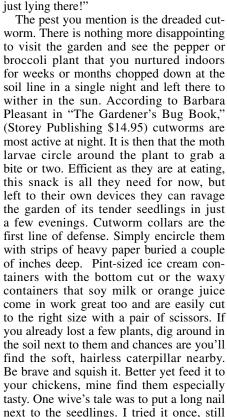
This question came from Peggy, who gardens in Belchertown: "I always enjoy reading your column, and finally I got up the nerve to ask you a question. Last year, and for the first time ever, I grew elephant's ears. Just as you said to do, I dug them up before the first frost. They looked so good, surprisingly, that I kept three of them in pots in a room on the north side of my house where they only received a bit of indirect sunlight each day. I watered them throughout the winter and they put out some new growth. When the danger of frost had passed, I brought them directly outside of the room they were in, figuring I would harden them off before planting them in the garden. Before long, however, the leaves yellowed, and turned brown in patches. Do you have a guess as to what happened?"

I am surmising your plants got scalded from the wind and/or the sun. The intensity of the light change from a nearly dark room to outdoors with the wind on top of that, likely shocked the plant. I recommend you cut back any foliage that is too far gone and move the pots to a very protected, shady area. With any hope, the plants will regrow and you will get some enjoyment out of them this summer. When frost threatens, unearth the tubers and store in them in a pot of vermiculite or wrap in paper and store in empty pots at fifty degrees. Pre-start them in a sunny window in late March and gradually acclimatize to the outdoors in mid-May. Good luck!

### Cutworms

Cutworms are a big problem right now. I have seen many in my own garden. Here is an updated version of answers to a question that ran a few years back, figuring you may find it useful.

I ran into my old friend Don at the dentist office when this question arose: "I planted a lot of cabbage a few weeks back and in the morning I notice that some of the plants are cut off, right at the base. What is doing this? I find it strange that they aren't exactly eaten, just lying there!"



Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

had cutworms, then had to get all the nails

out of my garden!

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### SENTINEL

The Sentinel is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

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### **LETTER**

### In response to Mr. Conkey

Dear Editor,

We were so happy to see a response to our classmates' letter on PROforestation in last week's Sentinel and we are grateful to hear another opinion. However, we'd like to set the record straight. Mr.Conkey claims that replacing older trees with younger trees will have them absorbing more carbon within five or six years.

According to William R. Moomaw, Co-Director of the Global Development and Environment Institute at Tufts University, "U.S. forests have the potential for much more rapid atmospheric CO2 removal rates and biological carbon sequestration by intact and/or older forests." In addition, Mr. Conkey implies that bill H 912 will regulate logging on public and private land, when the bill only has say regarding forests on public land. It also won't have a significant impact on the work of loggers. These are important distinctions for readers to understand.

Mr. Conkey also implies that these forest protection bills are fed to state legislators who are "required by law to submit them whether they support them or not." This couldn't be further from the truth with these bills to protect public forests.

We attended a virtual meeting organized by the Sierra Club of Massachusetts on Wednesday, June 26 where the topics were H 912 and H 1002. State Representative Michael Finn, lead sponsor of H 912, took part as well, and seemed thrilled to hear about the efforts we and others were making. Clearly, this isn't the case of a legislator filing a bill someone just handed them. Instead, the effort to protect forests on public land in Massachusetts is coming from a coalition of students, state legislators, members of local governments and environmental groups including SaveMassForests, RESTORE: The North Woods, Elder Climate Action, Climate Action Now Western MA, Wendell State Forest Alliance, Mothers Out Front and the Sierra Club of MA just to name a few.

Hopefully, others in the legislature follow the lead of Rep. Finn and these bills can get passed. This will help our state's public lands get on a path to PROforestation where we aren't cutting down trees in the first place.

Sincerely,

Rose Collins, Keira Cunniffe and Vivienne Henry Sixth graders

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### OPINION

**GUEST COLUMN** 

# **History Matters**

History Matters is a biweekly feature courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize, which is given to children's books that emphasize the importance of American history.

### June 1 to June 15

**JOHN GRIMALDI** AND DAVID BRUCE SMITH

Guest columnists

n Jan. 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation put an end to slavery in the United States, but it took time for the news to advance. The state of Texas, for example, did not know anything about it until two years later, when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston on June 19, 1865, after the War, and announced the news to the enslaved people there.

According to History.com, "The day instantly became an important one to the African American citizens of Texas, who held annual celebrations and even made pilgrimages to Galveston each Juneteenth."

In no time, festivities proliferated throughout the nation; now, 47 states and the District of Columbia recognize Juneteenth as a holiday, but Texas was the first to decree annual observance of June 19th in 1979.

For more information about Juneteenth, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends books such as "The Fire Next Time," by James Baldwin.

### Lafayette

Benjamin Franklin, the Continental Congress's envoy to France, was not enthusiastic about having 19-year-old Marquis de Lafayette volunteer his military expertise to the colonial revolutionary forces two years into the War. Nevertheless, Lafayette, whose full name was Marie-Joseph Paul Roch Yves Gilbert du Motier, made the difficult journey, and arrived in South Carolina on June 13, 1777. He hoped to be General

George Washington's second in command. Though his youth might have been an issue when he made his case to Congress, the Marquis' offer of service was accepted by Washington, and he was commissioned as a Major-General.

Lafayette served with distinction in numerous battles, but in February 1778 when France and the American Revolutionary forces signed a formal treaty of alliance, it set off a declaration of war between France and Britain. By the time Lafayette returned to France, he had proven himself in battle, his loyalty to the American cause, and Benjamin Franklin admitted the Marquis had demonstrated his worth.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends is Sarah Vowell's "Lafayette in the Somewhat United States."

### First Black West Point cadet

"Henry Flipper did all his country asked him to do." President Bill Clinton said of Henry Ossian Flipper, the first African American graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Life was not easy for him. He was born into slavery in Thomasville, Georgia, in 1856; after he completed his studies on June 14, 1877, he wrote his autobiography, which revealed the cruel treatment he had received at West Point.

According to History.com, Flipper recalled how "he was socially ostracized by white peers and professors.'

After commencement, Flipper served as a second lieutenant in the African American 10thCavalry Regiment, known as the Buffalo Soldiers of Fort Sill, Oklahoma; there, he distinguished himself with his engineering prowess; as a matter of fact, a drainage system designed by him is listed as a National Historic Landmark. It's known as "Flipper's Ditch."

His career was halted when he was brought up on charges of stealing government money, and conduct unbecoming

See HISTORY, page 9 •

### **COMMENTS ON CONGRESS**

### Can the U.S. sustain the international order?

**LEE H. HAMILTON** 

Guest columnist

e don't often think that how the U.S. conducts itself at home has much impact on how we face the world, but it does. You'd be amazed at how closely people in countries all over the globe follow events here and count on the United States to lead the way. When it's messy at home, it's hard to sustain the strength and readiness to turn our attention outward.

Doing so is especially important right now because what we've come to term "the international order" is under stress. It's not collapsing by any means, but U.S. leadership faces challenges and if we're divided and unsettled at home, it will be much more difficult to respond appropriately.

What is the international order? It's essentially the set of structures and values that evolved during the 20th century to resolve disputes, promote commerce and free trade, undergird economic development and investment, further contacts and exchanges between nations and their citizens, and protect human rights. It's based on mutually-negotiated rules and initiatives that, in a well-functioning world, are promoted by institutions such as the UN, the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, the World Trade Organization, the World Health Organization, and others.

These days, though, it's fair to say that there's no aspect of the order we once took for granted that isn't at least facing questions. This is in part because, at the moment, both China and Russia are asserting their interests and, often, working actively to undermine ours. At the same time, the U.S. role is less prominent than it once was. Our allies, especially after the four years of the Trump administration, are uncertain of our commitment to global leadership given that we questioned longtime alliances, withdrew from institutions, pulled out of international accords, and in general pulled back from the web of alliances and agreements that we had helped shape in earlier years. Understandably, our friends and allies wonder how much they can count on us and our adversaries are eager to test us. At the same time, forces beyond the control of any government are reshaping the global picture. Nationalism is stronger, conflicts between countries seem to be ratcheting up, and many societies are struggling with growing diversity, declining tolerance, and a turn toward authoritarianism. On the whole, international power is less concentrated and more widely distributed, which presents challenges to global institutions and makes it more difficult to pursue much-needed reforms within them.

In this situation, it's crucial that democracies such as the U.S., Europe, Japan, and Canada recognize the importance of the role they play in sustaining and revitalizing the international order. It's by no means a given that it can endure, but the democracies have an advantage: for many people around the world, the more authoritarian alternatives are not especially appealing.

Even so, the work of strengthening the world order will require a concerted effort that blends both cooperation and firmness. We have to strengthen our alliances of course, as well as shore up and broaden arms control efforts. Countering authoritarianism in all its facets will be an ongoing challenge. And we need constantly to gauge how best to be a benign world power, helping to resolve conflicts and slow to use force—not ruling it out, but relying on it wisely and only when necessary.

Finally, as I suggested at the beginning, our strength on all these fronts will come from making sure that we are strong at home: that our economy is robust, our finances and debt are manageable, our elections are fair and well run, our infrastructure is revitalized, we invest in the future of our businesses through research and development, and we invest in the future of the American people by focusing attention on education and skills development. If we can do all that, then we will have earned the right to lead the world in navigating the challenges facing the international order.



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### ■ PUBLIC SAFETY

### **Belchertown Police**

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of May 26 through June 1. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the 263 calls police responded to, there were 12 incidents, six accidents, three arrest/summons and 11 citations.

### ARRESTS/SUMMONS Sunday May 29

12:42 a.m. - Gage D. Costa, 4 North St, Three Rivers, 20, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and leaving the scene of property damage. An officer was on patrol to the area of South St and South Washington when there was a reported motor vehicle that struck a tree. It was unknown if there were any injuries. The officer located the vehicle across the street. There was no one inside of the vehicle. The fire department arrived on scene and aided in looking for the operator. The vehicle rolled multiple times and was pinned against a tree. The plate was located on the front bumper. The suspect was located on South Liberty St adjacent to the accident. The male party was identified in the fire apparatus. Owner of the veicle asked for drivrs license. Hit puddle and swerved off the rd. when answered smelled alcohol on breath evaluated, but declined transport. Unsteady on feet and only had one shoe on. Said he had a couple drinks. Placed under arrest and charged accordingly. Brought to station for booking and was transported to Granby Police station to do a chemical test. The suspect issued and yielded a .15 blood alcohol level. The suspect was then transported back to Belchertown for booking and was released on person recognizance.

### Sunday, May 30

4:32 a.m. – Ryan P Sullivan-Daley, 18, of 101 Pond View Circle in Belchertown was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor and failing to keep right for an oncoming vehicle. An officer responded to Allen Rd for a single vehicle crash. The vehicle was found off the roadway with the operator unconscious. The officer was waved down by two parties who observed the operator unconscious in the vehicle. The witnesses were driv-

ing down the road when they noticed the vehicle off the roadway. Both people said the operator was unconscious in the driver's seat and took some time to wake up. The driver then jumped to passenger's seat of the vehicle. The witnesses asked if the operator was okay. Their eyes were bloodshot and glossy. The party said they had no memory of the driver and didn't know where their license was. The party declined transported but was evaluated. They later admitted to being at a party. The party agreed to do a field sobriety test. The officer arrested the party on probably cause after the test was administered. The party was then brought to Granby Police for breathalyzer test and back to Belchertown for the officer to finish booking. He was later released on person recognizance.

### ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS Wednesday, May 26

10 a.m. - A resident wanted to speak to an officer regarding work done at their residence and they believed they were scammed out of money. The incident started in May when the reporting party created a post on social media looking for someone to perform work. The reporting party found a person on the post who said they would complete the job. They told the reporting party they needed an initial amount of money up front and later requested additional funds. The operator then came over to give am estimate after the post. After the reporting party's initial payment was sent and another amount was sent via Venmo, then the involved person asked for additional funds. The reporting party wanted the incident to be documented.

5:49 p.m. – Officers assisted Belchertown fire paramedics with three medical calls which came in simultaneously from a nearby complex. These required mutual aid from Ludlow and Granby.

### Friday, May 28

6:10 a.m. – Officers responded to a reports for Gulf Rd flooding. Officers reported a severe flooding issue. There was a nearby brook was swollen and rapidly overflowing. The officer noticed sections of the roadway washed away and trees were in the roadway. There were two feet of water reported on Gulf, North Gulf and South Gulf Rds. The Belchertown DPW was notified and Belchertown Fire was contact. The nearby neighbor said a beaver dam in the area burst. According to the 911 mapping system, there was 2.8 acres of standing water in the water. Photos of the area were taken. There was no sign of influence from

people. Numerous state and local agencies were contacted to respond to the area.

11:59 p.m. – An officer responded to Munsell St for a report of a vehicle hitting a mailbox. It was reported the vehicle was a red truck with a camper cap in the bed. The truck was last seen going to Daniel Shay's Highway. The officer encountered a truck matching the description and identified the operator. The operator said they came from area but didn't hit the mailbox. The reporting party said they waited 10 minutes before calling police. There were three to four mailboxes in the area that had damage from the vehicle. There is no further information at this time.

2:59 p.m. – Officers responded to Federal St for a report of an accident at a business. A witness saw a vehicle back into another vehicle in the parking lot. The second vehicle pulled forward and went onto Daniel Shay's Highway. A witness provided plate information of the second vehicle. An officer made contact with the operator of the second vehicle at the location. They were unaware they backed into another car and provided contact information to the first operator.

### Saturday, May 29

12:39 a.m. – Officers responded to an accident on Barton Ave. An operator was travelling south on Barton Ave when the operator went off the wet roadways caused the front tires of the vehicle to get caught on a soft dirt. The vehicle was pulled to the right leading it to get stuck on multiple tree stumps. It was raining at the time of the crash. The vehicle was towed from the scene. The back driver's side window shattered and other damage was reported.

### Sunday, May 30

6:15 a.m. – Officers responded to assist Belchertown fire and paramedics.

7:14 a.m. – An officer responded to a Sheffield Dr residence for a report of a vehicle that was gone through overnight. The unlocked vehicle had its center console open and belongings scattered around the floor. Nothing of value was missing. A report is on file.

10:25 a.m. – An officer responded to Bardwell St at Chauncey Walker Rd for a request to dispatch a raccoon that was walking around in circles. It was determined to be rabid or distempered.

1:15 p.m. – An officer and Belchertown Fire Department responded to an apartment complex for report of smoke. At the time of the report, the tenants were not home, and a neighbor let the first responders in. They

reported seeing and smelling smoke. After knocking no one on answered, fire fighters had neighboring tenants evacuated from the building. They forced entry into the apartment, retrieved a cat there and crated it. The fire department removed a stove which was the source of the smoke. Once the smoked cleared, they went to see what the damage was in the apartment. After ventilating and airing the room out, neighboring tenants were allowed back in and maintenance workers secured that door and the owner was notified.

4:39 p.m. –Officers responded to an accident on George Hannum Rd. Two vehicles approaching the underpass from opposite directions. The two collided at underpass. There were no injuries or tows.

### Tuesday, June 1

10:26 a.m. – The School Resource Officer was contacted by the principal reporting vandalism to a playground. There are no suspects at this time and the matter is still under investigation.

12:48 p.m. – Officers spoke to an individual over concerns about an elderly resident.

4:12 p.m. – Officers responded to a two car accident on East St. One vehicle travelling south on East St when they observed a trash truck backing into the roadway. The driver then tried to get attention of the trash truck operator to stop. The first vehicle was side swiped by the truck. Both vehicles were damaged.

10:26 p.m. – Officer spoke to resident concerning inappropriate video on Snapchat. The officer contacted the involved party. They apologized and the video was removed. No additional information is available.

### **Granby Police**

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 167 calls for the week of May 28 through June 3. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. All information is provided by the Granby Police Department.

### Friday, May 28

6:12 a.m. – Officers investigated a report of property damage done at Dufresne park.

### Saturday, May 29

9:40 p.m. – Officers investigated a motor vehicle accident on Amherst St. The operator struck a deer and caused damage to vehicle

# State Fire Marshal offers summer fire safety tips

State Fire Marshall Peter J. Ostroskey shared a number of fire safety tips to residents recently. "Between the pandemic and the long New England winter, we're all itching to get outside and enjoy ourselves," said Ostroskey. "Memorial Day weekend is a good time to prevent fires: tune up the grill; teach teens about gasoline safety; set up safe receptacles for smoking materials; and leave the fireworks to the professionals."

### **Grilling safety**

Between 2016 and 2020, Massachusetts fire departments responded to 427 fires involving grills, hibachis, and barbecues. These fires caused 15 civilian injuries, six firefighter injuries, and \$4 million in property damage. In 2020 alone, there were 74 grill fires that injured one civilian, one firefighter and caused \$454 million in estimated damages.

State Fire Marshal Ostroskey offered these safety tips for grilling safety:

- · Always grill outdoors.
- Place grills 10 feet away from the house and deck railings. Make sure grills are not under eaves or overhanging branches.
- · Do not use a gas or charcoal grill on any porch, balcony, or fire escape.
- Gas grills can be used on first floor decks or patios, but only if there is an outdoor stairway to the ground, or it is at ground level.
- · Keep all matches, lighters and lighter fluid away from children.

· Create a circle of safety. Keep children and pets three feet away from grills. Children should never play near grills.

On April 25, 2020, at 3:52 p.m., the Littleton Fire Department was called to a gas grill fire in a one-family home. The homeowner started the grill on the rear deck and a while later noticed flames coming out the bottom. She went over to shut the LP tank off and burned her hands. The fire coming out the back of the grill ignited the exterior wall of the home and caused \$75,000 in damage.

On May 30, 2020, the Lunenburg Fire Department responded to a gas grill fire in a two-family home at 5 p.m. The grill was on a patio and ignited the exterior wall of the home causing \$115,000 in damages. It spread to a nearby home causing another \$1,000 in estimated damage. Smoke alarms alerted the residents.

On Aug. 5, 2020, at 8:21 p.m., the Revere Fire Department responded to a gas grill fire in a two-family home. The grill was on a third-floor porch and ignited the wall, causing \$110,000 in damage. Smoke alarms operated but the home did not have fire sprinklers.

On Sept. 13, 2020, the Plymouth Fire Department responded to a grill fire on the back deck of a single-family home. Working smoke alarms alerted the residents and no one was injured at this fire. The home had no fire sprinklers and damages were estimated at \$110,000.

### Charcoal grills

Propane is the most common grilling fuel, but many people use charcoal grills. Here are some charcoal grill safety tips:

· Only use charcoal starter fluid. Do not use gasoline or kerosene to start a fire in a grill.

· Never add lighter fluid to burning briquettes or hot coals. Doing so may cause a flash fire and result in serious burn injuries.

- · Charcoal briquettes give off carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can be deadly. Always use charcoal grills outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Never use charcoal grills indoors.
- · For proper disposal of grill ashes, allow the coals to burn out completely and then cool for 48 hours before disposal.
- · If you must dispose of ashes before they are completely cooled, thoroughly soak them in water before putting them in a metal container.

### Gasoline and lawnmowers

"Is your teenager finally old enough to mow the lawn? Then be sure to discuss gasoline safety at the same time; talk about why it is important to let the engine cool before refueling," Ostroskey said. Gasoline vapors are highly flammable and refueling a hot motor can ignite them. Gasoline spilled onto clothing can give off vapors until completely dry and be ignited by any heat source. Gasoline vapors can travel a long distance to find an ignition source,



which is why gasoline cannot be stored inside the house. In the past five years (2016-2020), 338 lawn mower fires caused one civilian death, three civilian injuries, four fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of \$1.6 million.

- · Store gasoline outside only in approved containers.
- · Keep gasoline away from all heat sources, such as smoking materials, pilot lights, campfires, and grills.
- Refuel a cooled lawn mower. Never refill while it is hot.
- · Keep hands and feet away from a mower while it is running.

On May 20, 2020, the Charlton Fire Department was called to a riding lawn mower fire. The owner stated that he had

# Former employees mark ER satellite closure

### A family reunion for just a few hours

#### **EILEEN KENNEDY**

Staff writer

WARE – For a short time last Thursday night, June 3, the Mary Lane family was together again.

The former employees met in the closed parking lot of the hospital, which had closed at noon earlier in the day. Trickling into the parking lot one and two at a time, they hugged each other and were joyful upon seeing former coworkers they hadn't seen for some time, and others they had just seen earlier in the day.

They laughed, caught up with each other, but they were all sad in the wake of Mary Lane's closure of its satellite emergency facility at noon Thursday.

Baystate Health officials Dr. Mark Keroack and Molly Gray announced in late January they were closing Mary Lane's emergency and cancer services by the end of June, and the rest of the services at the campus over the following 18 months.

"We're still a family, we're all happy to see each other tonight, but it's said, it feels like a wake," said Peggy Baxter, who worked at the hospital for 19 years as a non-clinical educator.

"I was actually working here today, it was terrible," said Jennifer Bolduc, who had worked for 10 years as a registered nurse in the ER. "We've taken care of so many people in this small community; the person you're grocery shopping with could be someone you're soon taking care of."

Another described how the Mary Lane sign on the building at the entrance was removed before the hospital actually closed on June 3, and was sawed in half by the

They hugged, joked, told stories, laughed loudly, teased each other and cried for a couple of hours, remembering what it was like to be together.

"What you see here tonight, that's how it was," said Cheryl Joubert, who worked as a nurse. "We all got along, we laughed and joked – everyone was equal, nobody was up on a pedestal. And we knew our patients, we'd see them and say, "Roger, why are you still smoking?" We really knew them."

"Everyone worked well together, we all knew each other and we many of the people in town and they knew us," said Sue Teczar, an RN for 20 years.

A doctor, who did not want his name used, said the hospital closing will be tough for Ware and the surrounding towns.

"They're ripping the heart of the community, it's heart-wrenching," he said. "At one time it had OB, general surgery, and we all melded and all came here for a reason – the patient. It was phenomenal

This really is a big loss for the commu-

He said the ER also provided patients with a lot more than medical care, connecting them with social services. Many low-income residents without transportation used the hospital on a regular basis, he said. "Those most impacted by the closing have the least means, it's just a shame," he

#### Now retired

Robin Healey, an RN for 20 years at Mary Lane, agreed. "They've let down the whole community," she said, by closing the hospital.

See HOSPITAL, page 10 •



Former employees of Mary Lane Hospital gathered on the evening of June 3, the day the satellite emergency facility was closed by Baystate Health, its parent company.

### **REOPENING** • from page 1

remotely.

The board ultimately moved to have Belchertown's public bodies continue to participate in remote meetings, according to Massachusetts general law. The way in which participation will happen is dependent on current law and any changes from this point forward.

They also agreed that the way the town boards conduct remote participation will most likely change at some point between now and September.

The SelectBoard also discussed its summer meeting schedule, ultimately choosing regular meetings on July 12, July 26, Aug. 16, and Aug.30, and a strategy session on Aug. 2. The September meeting schedule will resume as normal after Labor Day.

There was also a conversation during the meeting about an amendment to Food Truck Fridays. Discussion included trash plans—the Department of Public Works would not have the staff to do the trash at these events, however, a group of volunteers would be managing onsite trash and

There was a brief discussion about whether Food Truck "Fridays" should be held on Thursdays, so that the food trucks did not act as competition for the town's restaurants that have struggled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, it was ultimately decided that the events would remain on the scheduled

"I am in full support of having them on Fridays," said Select Board Chair Jennifer Turner, adding that the events are important key economic drivers for town.

### **HISTORY** • from page 7

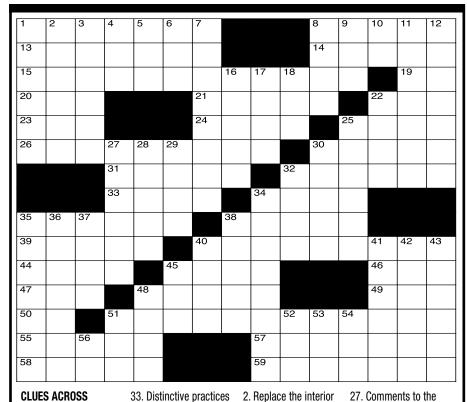
an officer and a gentleman. A court martial acknowledged his innocence of the embezzlement charge, but found him guilty of the conduct accusations for which he was dishonorably discharged. Although Flipper had a "distinguished career" as a civilian engineer, he never reconciled the humiliat-

The Army overturned his "dishonorable" status in 1976, 36 years after his death, and in 1999, President Clinton granted Flipper a full posthumous pardon.

The Grateful American Book Prize recommends Henry Ossian Flipper's West Point autobiography, "The Colored Cadet at West Point" and Jane Eppinga's "Henry Ossian Flipper: West Point's First Black



Former employees together June 3, with the backdrop of the entrance missing the Mary Lane sign on the building. It was removed earlier in the day.



### **CLUES ACROSS**

- Most courageous 8. Insurance giant
- 13. Small trace left behind 14. In a way, signals
- beginning 19. The Great Lakes

15. The same letter

or sound at the

- 20. Engage in a contest
- 21. Drinks served to celebrate a birth (Spanish)
- 22. Manpower
- 23. Undivided 24. Strong, magnetic
- metal 25. People of Tanzania
- 26. Sorts 30. Cop car accessory
- 31. Trade
- 32. Sullen and ill-tempered

- 33. Distinctive practices 34. Motor vehicles
- 35. Electrodes
- 38. Polish river 39. Human feet
- 40. Make very hot 44. Toppin and Kenobi are two
- 45. Blackbird 46. One point west of due south
- 47. Large beer 48. Third stomachs
- 49. Rare Korean family name
- 50. Hectoliter
- 51. Aquatic invertebrate
- 55. Where we live
- 57. Poked holes in 58. Partner to ways 59. \_\_\_ Ann

### **CLUES DOWN**

1. Expressions of approval

- 2. Replace the interior
- 3. Not awake
- 4. Roman numeral 7
- 5. Sun up in New York
- 6. Institute legal proceedings against 7. Bugs homeowners
- don't want 8. Maltese-Italian
- composer 9. Very long period of
- time 10. Touchdown
- 11. Agents of downfall 12. Complacently or inanely foolish
- 16. Argentina capital Buenos
- 17. County in New Mexico
- 18. An electrically charged atom 22. New Zealand conifer

25. Type of brandy

dust 37. Norse god 38. Health care pro

audience

29. Gifts for the poor

34. Lying in the same

35. Line in a polygon

36. Clouds of gas and

28. Tears down

30. More painful

32. Good friend

plane

- 40. Close tightly
- 41. One's holdings 42. Became less intense
- 43. Wilco frontman
- 45. Woman (French) 48. Expresses delight
- 51. TV channel (abbr.)
- 52. Beverage
- 53. Unit of work or
- energy
- 54. Cleaning accessory
- 56. Dorm worker

### LIFE AFTER COVID

### Survey says even with vaccine, Mass. residents expect a long recovery

SPRINGFIELD — Even with vaccines against COVID-19 becoming accessible to a larger portion of the public, Massachusetts residents are cautious about returning to pre-pandemic activities, according to the latest survey from the Western New England University Polling Institute.

The telephone survey of 415 adults, conducted March 1-31, found that 44% were still very or somewhat worried about contracting COVID-19, down from 64% in the last Polling Institute survey conducted Oct. 22-Nov. 24, 2020. Fifty-four percent said they are not very worried or not at all worried, up from 32 percent in the fall survey.

The current level of worry did not vary significantly based on whether a respondent had received a vaccine to protect against COVID-19. Thirty-four percent of the sample reported having received at least one dose of a vaccine. Among the vaccinated group 45% were still very or somewhat worried about contracting the virus, while 52% said they were not very or not at all worried.

Among adults who said they had not yet received a vaccine, 44% were very or somewhat worried and 54 percent said they were not very or not at all worried. The survey, which has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus six percentage points, also found:

Sixty percent of adults said they strongly or somewhat support the return of elementary school students to public school classrooms five days a week, which is underway in many schools across the state this week. Twenty-nine percent of respondents said they strongly or somewhat oppose the idea. A majority of residents gave the state and Governor Charlie Baker a grade of B or C for the rollout of the vaccination plan so far. Baker's overall job approval rating fell six points to 62% among all adults compared to the October-November survey, and the approval rating for the governor's handling of the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic fell five points, to 62%.

Support remained high for cities and towns requiring masks in public places, with 85% backing the idea, 13% opposed, and two percent undecided. Ninety percent supported requiring masks in public places in the fall survey.

Among survey respondents who had yet to receive a vaccine, 68% said they would be very or somewhat likely to get the vaccine if it was available to them today, and 29% said they would be very or somewhat unlikely. Among all respondents to the fall 2020 survey, 59% said they would be very or somewhat likely to get the vaccine, while 38 percent said they would be very or somewhat unlikely.

Perceptions of the safety of engaging in public activities ranging from dining indoors in restaurants to working out in gyms with masks and social distancing shifted slightly in the direction of greater perceived safety, but about half of all adults still view those activities as unsafe.

Tim Vercellotti, director of the Polling Institute and a professor of political science at Western New England University, said the survey results depict a state that may be ready for life to return to some semblance of pre-pandemic activity, but that many adults are cautious about rushing too quickly to do so.

"More people are willing to get vaccinated, and there is some sense of diminished threat from COVID-19," Vercellotti said.

"But people still remain worried about contracting the virus, and a significant number believe that the pandemic is far from



When asked how long it would be before daily life could return to the way it was before the pandemic, 21% said "in more than a year," down eight points from 2020. Eighteen percent said a year, 16% chose seven to 11 months, 18% said four to six months, and 9% said three months or less, with the figures inching slightly in the direction of a shorter duration compared to the fall survey. Eight percent volunteered that their lives would never return to the way they were before the pandemic, compared to three percent in the fall survey.

While the survey found that a majority of adults supported allowing students in kindergarten through fifth grade to return to classrooms five days a week, views varied significantly by gender, race/ethnicity, and age. Sixty-six percent of men and 54% of women strongly or somewhat supported the idea. Sixty-two percent of white respondents strongly or somewhat supported the policy, and 26% were somewhat

or strongly opposed. Non-white respondents, which included African-Americans, individuals identifying as Latino or Hispanic, Asian-Americans, Native Americans, and people identifying with more than one race, were almost evenly divided about the idea. Forty-seven percent were strongly or somewhat supportive, and 50% said they were strongly or somewhat opposed.

Among adults ages 18 to 39, 58 percent supported giving elementary students the chance to return full time, compared to 70 percent among respondents ages 65 and older.

Thirty-four percent of adults and 37% of registered voters in the sample reported having received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and the percentage across groups varied by political party, gender, race/ethnicity, and age. Forty-nine percent of Democrats said they had received at least one dose, compared to 22% of Republicans and 30% of unenrolled voters. Thirty-

eight percent of women and 29% of men said they had received at least one dose of a vaccine. Thirty-four percent of white respondents and 25% of non-white respondents said the same.

Not surprisingly, given that the state's phased introduction of vaccinations has been based in part on age, respondents 65 and older had the highest rate of vaccination, with 69% indicating they had received at least one dose.

Survey respondents overall gave Baker and the state passing grades for their management of the vaccination program, but only 11% gave Baker an A, and only nine% gave the state an A. Thirtyfour percent of adults gave Baker a B, 31% a C, 12% a D, and 6% a failing grade. Thirty-five percent of adults gave the state as a whole a B and 35% awarded a C and 6% a failing grade.

Baker and the state received higher marks from survey respondents who had received at least

See COVID, page 12 •



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### **HOSPITAL** • from page 9

While many low-income patients have used the hospital, its medical crew has provided care to a wide variety of people, rich and poor, for almost 100 years.

Longtime resident Dave Gravel, whose wife was an ER nurse, said. "they saved my life," as he and his wife mingled with former employees. In 2013, Gravel was having chest pains that wouldn't go away, and so he drove himself from his Westbrook Avenue home to the where he was stabilized and sent on to Springfield, where he had a stent inserted in his heart. "What is going to happen now with the most serious cases?" Gravel said. "With having to make a trip to Palmer now, I'm not sure if everyone will make it. Feel bad not just for Ware, but also for Hardwick and the Brookfields.'

For Nancy Snow, who was a Mary Lane ER nurse for 17 years, it wasn't just about her work family.

"It was about what was best for the patient – we love them and they love us," she said. Although, working there was certainly a great experience, she said. "Mary Lane is such a great family, I've worked in several different hospitals before Mary Lane and they haven't been like this," she said. "You were never alone, someone always had your back."

And it wasn't just medical personnel who felt it was a family. "We had a great, great team here, this is a sad thing," said Marge Wocjik, a unit secretary for 37 years. "I loved the camaraderie and the sense of family here."



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS COURTESY PHOTO

Mary Lane Hospital's former employees catch up with each other in the wake of the its ER services ending on June 3.

Tammy Beaumier, who worked as a unit secretary in the former Davis Wing, agreed. She started working at Mary Lane in the kitchen when she was in high school and returned as a secretary. "It was a great place," she said. "It was like working with your family."

For Cheryl Nute, who has worked nights in Mary Lane's ER for 40 years, ER, until this year it was the only workplace she has known. "I loved it here," she said. "I came straight from college and worked here ever since."

She said Mary Lane always provided a lot of camaraderie, and she loved caring for the community. She now works at Wing Hospital in Palmer, which is now the nearest ER for Ware and surrounding towns.

As the twilight darkened and they continued to tell stories, hug, take group photos and shed some tears together, it's clear Mary Lane will live on in their hearts and minds.

Or in the words of Carole King, who was unit secretary for almost 30 years, "It was fun while it lasted."

# Spencer man suspected of murdering Molly Bish

Named a person of interest, DA seeks additional information

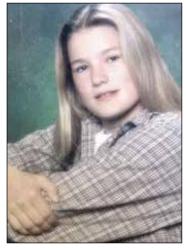
EILEEN KENNEDY

Staff writer

WARREN — A Spencer man, who died in 2016, was named on June 3 as a person of interest in the abduction and murder of 16-year-old Molly Bush almost 21 years ago. She was taken from Com ins Pond in Warren on June 27, 2000, where she worked as a lifeguard, and her remains were found in Palmer on Whiskey Hill almost three years later.

Francis "Frank" P. Sumner Sr. has been named a person of interest in the murder of Molly Bush, Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. announced on June 3.

Sumner, who died in 2016, is being investigated in the 2000 murder of the 16-year-old after investigators recently received new information. Sumner, born in 1945, was active in the Central



COURTESY PHOTOS

Molly Bish, 16, disappeared from her Comins Pond lifeguard job on the morning on June 27, 2000. Her remains were found almost three years later on Whiskey Hill in Palmer. A Spencer man has been named as a person of interest.

Massachusetts area from 1960 through 2016. He was known to operate auto repair shops in the Spencer, Leicester and Worcester areas. Sumner lived in Spencer prior to his death.

Investigators are looking for

tips from the public, specifically for information relative to Sumner's employment practices/personnel, associates, vehicles, travel and any known habits.

Bish's family and Early's office have run several tip campaigns regarding Molly Bish's murder over the last few years.

According to published reports, Sumner was convicted of kidnapping and aggravated of another 16-year-old girl in the early 1980s, and served time in prison for the crime.

This announcement comes just weeks before the 21st anniversary of Molly's disappearance from Comins Pond in Warren on June 27, 2000. Molly Bish was a resident of Warren and was working as a lifeguard at the pond. Some personal possessions, such as her Quaboag Regional High School identification card, were found at Comins Pond. Her disappearance set off a massive search.

Her remains were found nearly three years later in the woods of Whiskey Hill in nearby Palmer.

State Police Detectives assigned to the Worcester County District Attorney's Office encourage anyone with information on Sumner or any additional information on the Molly Bish case to call the anonymous tip line at 508-453-7575.

Photos of Sumner bear a resemblance to artist's renderings of a man Molly's mother, Magi Bish, saw in the Comins Pond parking lot the day before her daughter's disappearance. She was dropping her daughter off at her job, and gave police a description of the man

The family has asked Early's office to provide their public statement to the press.

"It is with grateful hearts that we extend our appreciation to the work of the Massachusetts State Police detectives, particularly Detective Michael MacDonald, and Worcester District Attorney's office, and the determination of both former District Attorney John Conte and current DA Joe Early," according to the statement.

To the reporters who shared



Francis "Frank" P. Sumner Sr. has been named a person of interest in the murder of Molly Bish, Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr.. He is asking anyone with information on Sumner, who died in 2016, or any additional information on the Molly Bish case, to call the anonymous tip line at 508-453-7575.

Molly's story, we could not be here today, without your help," it reads. "To our family and friends, we are forever grateful for your love and strength supporting us over the past 21 years. Our hearts are heavy with our loss and the reality of what may have happened to our daughter, but we are hopeful that there will be resolution and that no one else will ever be harmed. We are proud of Molly's legacy of keeping children safe, advocating for families, and we feel it most strongly right now, reflected in our community."

The family also thanked those who were able to provide information about Sumner.

"Thank you to those brave people who provided tips and information to the detectives," it read. "We recognize how hard and scary that can be. Our community took action on June 27, 2000, and they have not stopped supporting



Francis "Frank" P. Sumner Sr

our search for the person responsible for hurting our Molly. You have buoyed us. When they say, it takes a g to raise a child, our village in Warren, Massachusetts has carried our broken hearts, and now helps us heal. We are so grateful for each and everyone of you. Thank you."

The Bish family has created the Molly Bish Foundation, which provides knowledge and education around child and family safety, and most recently, has advocated for the passage of a familial DNA law. With this initiative, their goal is to promote familial searching as an additional search of a DNA profile in a law enforcement DNA database, which is conducted after a routine search does not identify any profile matches. The law gives police the potential to identify close biological relatives of the source of an unknown forensic profile obtained from crime scene evidence, they have said, making it another tool for utilizing a DNA database to generate investigative leads and identify perpetrators of crime, and just as importantly, to help exonerate wrongfully convicted individuals.

The Bish family also began sponsoring Missing Children's Day at the State House, to gain for more resources and provide additional education for police and the public around responding to missing children.

They also created the Molly Bish Center for the Protection of Children and the Elderly, with college officials at Anna Maria University.



FILE PHOTO BY MICHAEL MOSCATELLI
A sign in front of the Bish home in Warren remembering 16-year-old Molly Bish.

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### **COVID** • from page 10

one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and grades were higher as people reported having heard or read more information about the state's vaccination program. Among adults who had received at least one dose of a vaccine, Baker received an A from 12% and a B from 42%, while among those who had not yet been vaccinated 11% gave Baker an A and 29% gave him a B.

Among survey respondents who said they had heard or read a lot of information about the vaccination program, 17% gave Baker an A and 36% gave Baker a B. The governor received an A from only 6% and a B from 31% of respondents who reported reading or hearing little or no information about the program.

Vercellotti noted that while Baker's consistently strong job approval rating has dipped in the latest survey, the results suggest that as people receive the vaccine and as they hear more about the vaccination program, views about Baker seem to become more positive.

"The deterioration in Baker's job approval rating may be temporary," Vercellotti said. "A lot depends on his continued management of the vaccination effort and the state's overall response to COVID."

The Polling Institute found that slightly higher percentages of adults perceived some public activities as safer than respondents had in the fall 2020 survey. Forty-two percent of respondents to the latest survey said, with masks and social distancing, watching a movie in a movie theater would be very or somewhat safe. Only 31% voiced a similar



view in the fall survey.

Views also improved somewhat regarding attending a service in a church, synagogue, mosque or other place of worship with masks and social distancing. Forty-six percent viewed the activity as very or somewhat safe, compared to 39% last fall. Shifts toward perceived greater safety were slightly smaller for three other activities: dining inside a restaurant, working out in a gym or health club, and traveling on an airplane. Across all five activities, however, about half of respondents still viewed them as very or somewhat unsafe.

"Perception of risk for these activities has softened somewhat since our last survey, but a lot of people still view these as potentially dangerous undertakings," Vercellotti said.

Having received at least one dose of a vaccine did not appear to be related to viewing the public activities as less risky compared to those who had not received a vaccine. In fact, survey respondents who had not been vaccinat-

ed were in some cases more likely to view the activities as safe. For example, 45% of vaccinated respondents viewed dining in a restaurant as very or somewhat safe, compared to 55% of adults who had not yet been vaccinated.

Vercellotti said political partisanship, gender, and age might be contributing to the differences as well. Democrats, women, and older adults were more likely to report having been vaccinated than Republicans, men, and younger adults, and Democrats, women, and older adults were also often less likely to view public activities as safe.

"At least at this early stage in the vaccination process, having a vaccine may not determine your assessment of risk of an activity," Vercellotti said. "Other characteristics, including partisanship, gender, and age, may be more strongly associated with perceived safety of public activities."

### Methodology

The Western New England University Polling Institute con-

ducted a telephone survey using live interviewers March 1-31. Western New England University sponsored and funded the study. The survey sample consists of telephone interviews in English only with 415 adults ages 18 and older drawn from across Massachusetts using random-digit-dialing of landlines and cell phones. The sample yielded 377 adults who said they are registered to vote in Massachusetts. Interviewers at the Polling Institute dialed household telephone numbers, known as "landline numbers," and cell phone numbers using random samples obtained from Dynamo of Shelton, CT.

In order to draw a representative sample from the landline numbers, interviewers alternated asking for the youngest adult male or the youngest adult female age 18 or older who was home at the time of the call. Interviewers dialing cell phone numbers interviewed the respondent who answered the cell phone after confirming three things: (1) that the respondent was in a safe setting to complete the survey; (2) that the respondent was an adult age 18 or older; and (3) that the respondent was a resident of Massachusetts. The sample of all adults consisted of 138 interviews completed on landlines, 266 interviews completed on cell phones, and an additional 11 questionnaires completed by cell phone respondents who opted to take the survey online instead of over the phone.

The landline, cell phone, and online data were combined and weighted to reflect the adult population of Massachusetts by gender, race, age, education, and county of residence using U.S. Census estimates for Massachusetts. The data also

were weighted to adjust for cell phone and landline usage based on state-level estimates for Massachusetts from the National Center for Health Statistics, and political party registration using statewide voter registration figures from the Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth.

All surveys are subject to sampling error, which is the expected probable difference between interviewing everyone in a population versus a scientific sampling drawn from that population. The margin of sampling error for a sample of 415 adults is +/- 4.7% at a 95% confidence interval. Taking into account a design effect of 1.9 for the weighting of the sample to estimates for the adult population of Massachusetts, the full margin of sampling error is +/- 6.4 percent (the margin of sampling error of 4.7% multiplied by the square root of the design effect), rounded down to 6% for purposes of this report. Thus, if 62% of adults said they approve of the job that Charlie Baker is doing as governor, one would be 95% sure that the true figure would be between 56% and 68% (62% +/- 6%) had all adults in Massachusetts been interviewed, rather than just a sample.

Sampling error increases as the sample size decreases, so statements based on various population subgroups are subject to more error than are statements based on the total sample. Sampling error does not take into account other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects.

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### **GRANBY ATM** • from page 1

money like we have to do right now."

Moving to the next article, voters took up an article that proposed to rescind the acceptance of the strong chief law. After some discussion, voters denied the motion by a majority.

"This article seeks to rescind the law commonly referred to as the fire department's strong chief law...additionally, he shall have full and absolute authority in the administration of the department, shall make all rules and regulations and for its operation, shall report to the Selectboard from time to time and shall annual report to the town condition of the department with his recommendations thereon end," Martin said.

He said the law "keeps politics out of the operation of the fire department," however the Selectboard has no input on the hiring or firing of employees, no review of any policies or regulations.

Resident Dennis Houle, a retired fire chief, disagreed with the article, citing previous political turmoil, which caused the law to be adopted by the town.

Another resident George Randall equated the current situation to "planting a seed in a bad garden," and the Selectboard shouldn't make a change because of one person.

"I feel that it is incumbent on the voters



PHOTO BY MELINA BOURDEAU

Voters at Granby Annual Town meeting approved a \$225,000 settlement with the former Fire Chief John Mitchell.

to not let this pass. It's important to the continuity of the fire department to keep the strong chief's law in effect; more important to me, if you remove this chapter from our town, I fear the quality of the fire chief candidates will decrease," he said.

Selectboard Chari Jennifer DeSilva said

the Selectboard would not be interested in running the fire department.

"One thing we learned in the last year is that the state law supersedes any contract we could ever write, even without contract renewal he would still remain under his current contract. That is where strong chief becomes the problem, we have no way of getting rid of him until a chief decides to leave," she said. "We're not looking for control, we're looking to have a say in what happens."

The motion failed by a majority of the



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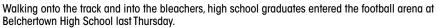
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In his Valedictorian speech, Ben Schrenzel spoke about the "hero's journey" each of the araduates was on.



Reading from a card given to him at the senior walk through, Belchertown High School Class President David Hulmes told seniors they, "did the damn thing."



Brother, Josiah, Joel and Virgilio Gonzalez met up on the track after graduation last week



Kylie Corbin and Samantha Carlin lined up together before graduation at Belchertown High School.



Belchertown High School graduate Chloe Pouliot

(From left to right) Henry Witt, Debbie Forkey, graduate Farrah Forkey, Charlie Moulton, Caitlin McCarthy and James Witt took a family photo after Farrah's graduation.



PHOTOS BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Graduates Cole Irving and Cody Lambert fist bump after getting their diplomas at graduation.

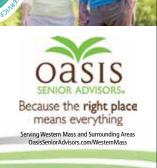


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### **GRADUATION** • from page 1

she said. "In 1920, the first commercially licensed radio station in the US began broadcasting. Now, each of you carries your own TV production studio along with you in your pocket. Consecutive integer years remind of us how much we are capable of as people."

She said the date also serves as a reminder of progression of all sorts, even difficult events.

In his speech, Class President David Hulmes talked about how progress is made, encouraging his classmates to take advantage of the "great reset" provided by graduation.

"You now have every opportunity to correct the wrong turn you may have taken over the last 18 years, because let's be honest, we have all taken wrong turns. Redirect yourself by thinking about how your path affected others," he said. "There are so many people out there who are proud of you, who are counting on you, and younger versions of yourself who are going to use your path as a

template for theirs."

He said he looks to his younger brother and hopes he learns from his mistakes – "that is how progress is made and this is how you can drive that progress."

Similarly, Salutatorian Ashley Messier urged her classmates to "be yourself, fully and unapologetically."

She said she struggled with how to write a good graduation speech, but discovered instructions were not working for her.

"It was then that I realized that this might not be a bad thing, maybe this was actually what I wanted to talk about. If you spend all this valuable time trying to model these formulaic notions, you are going to end up doing something someone expects you to do, not what you yourself want to do in the end," she said. "No person fits the one, inflexible mold. So you don't fill all these notions people have of who you're supposed to be. Awesome. You do you, and do it fully and unapologetically."

In the vein of progress, Valedictorian Ben Schrenzel spoke about the "hero's journey"



Belchertown High School graduates Allison Cote, Liam Clancy and Kaleigh Cooper met before graduation last week.

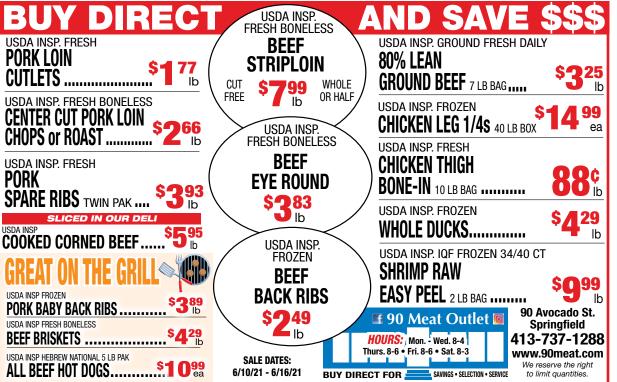
a literary template, which he believes urges people how to be, and he encourages people to "be well."

"Why bring up the hero's journey now? For that matter, why bring up any book now? For this reason – in society, and as with all human beings, literature plays a formative

role in our being and becoming," he said. "How does one find solace in a trying time? My suggestion – be well. That word choice is intentional, one can be good. But being good is not the same as being well. By being well, you're existing well. That I think is the most important thing any of us can do."



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# Jones Library announces phased reopening

AMHERST – The Jones Library announced its phased reopening of the Jones Library building beginning on Monday, June 14.

The initial hours will be Monday through Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. The Munson Memorial and North Amherst Libraries will continue to offer outdoor holds pick-up only. For more details, please visit www.joneslibrary.org/open

As of June 14, patrons will be able to browse the collections; borrow items; pick up holds; get a library card; use a computer; use copying, scanning, and printing services; hold ESL tutoring sessions; and visit our Special Collections Department by appointment.

At this point, the library is unable to

offer seating; newspapers; in-person programs; meeting room use; and technology assistance. These services will be added in a future phase of the reopening plan.

During library visits, patrons are asked to please wear a mask to cover mouth and nose; to maintain six feet of distance between you and others; to limit your visit to 30 minutes; and to please observe posted room capacity limits. This will help make the Jones Library a safer space for everyone in the community.

The phased reopening plan is carefully crafted to prioritize the safety and well-being of both staff and patrons. The goal is to gradually restore library services while ensuring the health of the community.

# UMass Amherst Libraries announce recipient of GEOSET Award

AMHERST —The UMass Amherst Libraries are pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2021 Sir Harold W. Kroto and Steve F.A. Acquah GEOSET (Global Educational Outreach for Science Engineering and Technology) Award is Jacque Moon Yee '22, a rising senior who produced an animated video about Saccharin, the artificial sweetener, and why it is so controversial.

"I am incredibly honored to receive this year's GEOSET Award from Dr. Acquah," Yee said. "I am very grateful for the recognition of my work with Professor Laura Vandenburg in the SCoPE (Science Communication to Promote Environmental Health) program at UMass, and I hope to continue to share science education with the world through digital media."

The award was established by Steve Acquah, Digital Media Coordinator and Associate Research Professor of Chemistry, to continue the late Nobel Laureate's legacy in research and outreach. It is given each year to a chemistry major who has demonstrated excellence in science communication through digital media. The Chemistry Award Ceremony falls on the fifth anniversary of Kroto's passing, a timely tribute.

"This past year we all became experts in digital media, navigating a landscape that was challenging at times," said Acquah, "but over the next year, I hope we all continue to find new and exciting ways to communicate our work and ideas through digital media."

### Nonprofit offering family travel grants

MONSON – Now that travel is making a comeback, many families are busy planning their next big adventure. Unfortunately, for those constrained by financial or other limitations, the dream may seem impossible.

"This past year has wreaked havoc on so many families," says Amanda Renna, Founder & CEO at Travelnitch. "But let's be honest, even pre-COVID, travel is a luxury that many cannot afford." Travelnitch is working to change this, according to Renna. The nonprofit organization, based in Western Massachusetts, is committed to making the travel lifestyle more accessible for those who feel it's out of reach. While Travelnitch is focused on virtual travel as a way of inspiring little explorers, Renna feels strongly that there is no substitute for the real thing.

"Travel is an opportunity for families to learn and grow together. It teaches kids adaptability and introduces them to people and places different from what they are accustomed to. Travel can be a really powerful tool for raising strong

and compassionate kids," Renna said. To make travel a more attainable goal for all families Travelnitch is now offering Family Travel Grants. Income-eligible households can apply for financial assistance to cover the cost of virtual tours, cultural excursions, and family daycations. The program is currently funded through generous support from individual donors, many of whom are avid travelers themselves. "People who share our passion for travel understand its value, and they want to share that experience with the next generation." Renna hopes to raise even more money to provide weekend getaway grants as well. To learn more about Travelnitch or to apply for a Family Travel Grant, visit travelnitch.org/grants. We also ask that you consider a gift to support this and other meaningful programs that inspire kids at home and beyond. Donations can be made online at travelnitch.org/donate or by mailing a check to Travelnitch, P.O. Box 284, Monson, MA

### FEMA provides funeral assistance support

NATION – FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after Jan. 20, 2020, under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Applications will only be taken over the phone by calling 844-684-6333 (TTY: 800-462-7585) from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday. Multilingual services are available. Interested applicants should visit Funeral Assistance FAQ | FEMA. gov to learn more about documentation required to complete your application.

There is no current end date for the application period, so you do not have to rush or worry that you will run out of time to register for assistance.

To be eligible for funeral assistance,

applicants must meet these conditions:

- The death must have occurred in the United States. The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after Jan. 20, 2020.
- The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien.

Once an applicant has registered for assistance, documentation can be submitted online through https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance, or by fax 855-261-3452. Documents may also be mailed to: COVID-19 Funeral Assistance P.O. Box 10001 Hyattsville, MD 20782.



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**Drew Alexander Buxton** Holyoke Community College



Carley Carriveau Holyoke Community College



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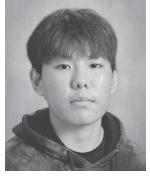
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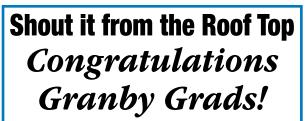
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William Richard Dubuque



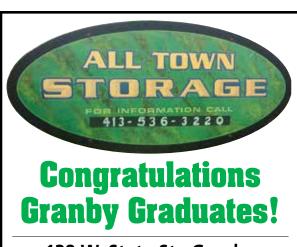
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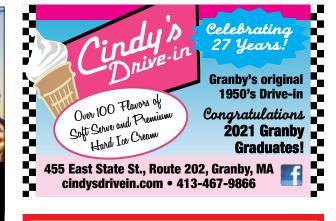
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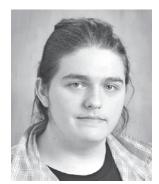
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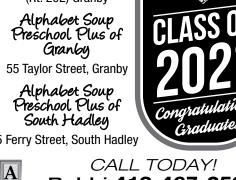
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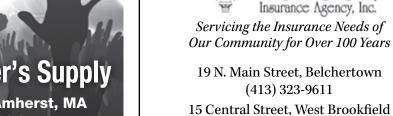
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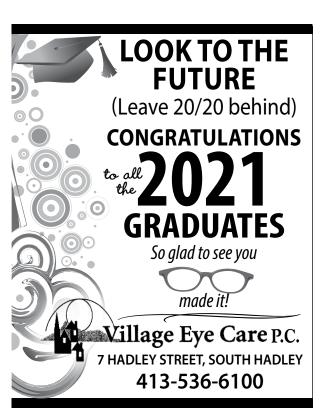
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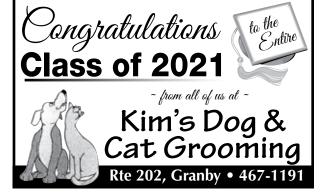


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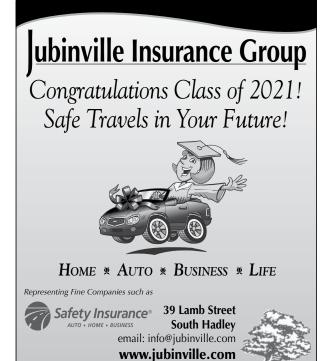
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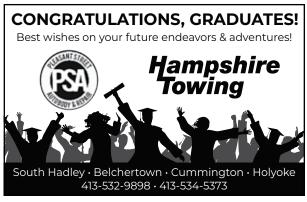
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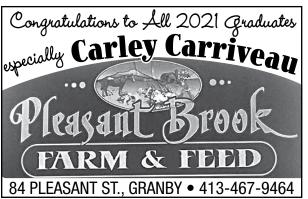
### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY STUDENTS

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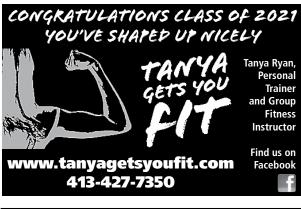


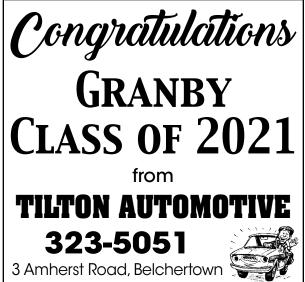












### ■ EDUCATION

# Granby Jr./Sr. High School third quarter honor roll

High School would like to extend congratulations to those students who achieved Honor Roll for the third quarter of the 2020-2021 school year:

Seventh Grade Maximum Honors - Kaitlyn Curran, Braeden Gallagher, Mylin Laliberte Witaszek, Ava-Elizabeth Loughman and Annalise Patterson.

– Benjamin French, Quinn Fuller, Julian Hernandez, Maxwell Kennedy, Braydon LaDuke and Keith Patterson.

Seventh Grade Honors Brandon Chatel, Thomas DeWitt, Addison Gardner, Noah Rodriguez, Stephen Szlosek, Isabella Woods

Eighth Grade Maximum Honors - Mabel Carillon, Margaret Crawford, Cassandra Flaherty, Cole Fuller, Gavin Kennedy, Madison Lacasse, Alexis Lapite, Chevenne Laramee, Ava McFarland, Tristan Moe, Gavin Moreno, Jack Ouellette, Owen Randall, Autumn Sicard, Austin Smith, Stewart Szlosek and Makayla Trudell.

**Eighth Grade High Honors** - Jena Abbott, Nathan Benson, Ethan Fournier, Logan LaPointe, Cameron LeBlanc, Cody White and Molly Zumbruski.

Eighth Grade Honors – Aiden Beach, Sawyer Clarke, Victor

GRANBY - Granby Jr. Sr. English, Jr., Emma Parsons, Addison Prignano, Laci Sabourin and Maxwell Seymour.

Ninth Grade Maximum Honors - Ciara Charest, Rhea Gagnon, Nicolas Grandmont, Peyton Justin, Cindy Kusumo, Neil Lindberg, Tia Looney, Corey Rondeau, David Silchuk and Emily Tremblay. Ninth Grade High Honors

- Benjamin Berger, Madison Seventh Grade High Honors Bombard, Brandie Dumais, Liberty Conlin, Casey Funk, Jessica Holubowich, Sara Lessard, Colin Murdock, Grace Roy and Noel Summerlin.

Ninth Grade Honors -Zachary Auclair, Kaitlyn Dwinell, Anthony Gregorio, Nikolas Misiaszek and Phillip Silchuk.

Tenth Grade Maximum **Honors** - Michael Arabik, Markus Baran, Joshua Chateauneuf, Patrick French, Rebecca Gavel, Emma Hall, Nolan Hall, Jack Hartling, Brady Pete, Katherine Vallee and Robert

**Tenth Grade High Honors** Elizabeth Adamites, Madyson Gaj, Logan Gallagher, Alexander Galusha, Olivia Hauschild, Paul Lucchesi IV, Hao Pham and Samuel Weatherbee.

**Tenth Grade Honors** – Eva Bartosz, Alexis Bogdanovich, Samuel Braese, Griffin Funk, Matthew Gancarz and Lauren

Eleventh Grade Maximum

- Alyson Barsalou, Joseph Boyington, Nathan C Breault, Dana Chateauneuf, Emily Frank, Sienna Hill, Ariana Klekotka, Emma Klekotka, Nick Lashway, Cooper Looney, Tegan Maclure, Karlie Moriarty, Declan Otto, Briana Sosa, Raymond Toth, Kristen Trembley and Gabrielle

**Eleventh Grade High Honors** - Gabriel Arabik, William Burke, Kayla Klekotka, Dylan Laramee, Jason Moura, Tyler Sudsbury and Michael Toth.

Eleventh Grade Honors -Alexis Ariza, Connor Asselin, Malcolm Brown, Gianna DiRico, Paige Galusha, Nathan Grandmont, Arash Karamshahi, Paige Maziarz, Isaiah Mejias, Madison Seaha, Rhaegan Sheehan, Alaina Shippee, Jordyn Sicard and Brandon Wishart.

Twelfth Grade Maximum - Kyra Dimitropolis, Gabriel Godard, Kyla Grenier, Nicolette Nickless, Nicholas Parker, Eric Rakowski, Faith Roy and Emily

**Twelfth Grade High Honors** Dylan Holubowich, Aidan Johnson, Nolan Sullivan and Josuet Torres.

Twelfth Grade Honors -Sophia Barker, Zachary Couture, Garrett Cronk, Dylan Moriarty, Jovany Velez and Rosalynn Vollbrecht.

### **Granby Library's Summer Reading Program Events**

Summer Reading Program and earn incentives this summer! Summer Reading Program runs from June 8 to Aug. 13.

### How do you do the Summer **Reading Program?**

Sign up at the library (inside or in lobby) to track your reading time and earn prizes! When you sign up, you will get a time log sheet and bag. Keep your log sheet all summer.

Earning book bucks – Every me you read (or are read to) for one hour, have an adult fill in one spot on your log sheet. For every two hours (two spots) that you read, you will earn a book buck. Book bucks are special library currency good for raffles, treasure chest items and buying books from a special cart. Show your log sheet at the library anytime before Aug. 13 to get your Book Bucks and to spend them. Bonus: Once you read for six hours, bring in your log sheet and ask for a prize pack including a free Cindy's Ice Cream Cone coupon.

### Magician and Juggler **Scott Jameson**

Thursday June 17 at 3 p.m. Join us for a magical performance that will have you laughing and perched on the edge of your seat. Umbrellas will be plucked from the thin air, basketballs will be spun and juggled and a member of the audience will unlock telekinet-

GRANBY - Join the ic abilities. This program will take place outside, with limited space. Pre-registration is absolutely required.

### **Bi-Weekly Imagination Kits** and StoryWalks

Bi-weekly, in keeping with a fantasy theme, pick up a take home bag containing a few fun projects for the week & enjoy some great StoryWalks along library paths.

#### **June 8 to 18** The Castle Garden StoryWalk The Scarlet Drag

Castle gardens could be magical places with flowers, tunnel arbors...Create some of your own magic this week; make a grass head, a glowing firefly, a bird thaumatrope and seed

### June 22 Unicorns StoryWalk - Sophie Johnson, Unicorn Expert

Celebrate the legendary, mystical unicorn. Take home a unicorn horn headband, make a magical bookmark and necklace. Imagination adventures with a sprinkle of pure magic.

### July 6 to 16 Royalty

StoryWalk - La Princesa and the Pea. Make way for the king and queen. Feel like royalty in a crown you decorate by adding some faux jewels...create a fairy tale stick puppet and make a wand to help you rule too.

See LIBRARY, page 25 •

# SPORTS

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Laliberte hits milestone in Granby win



Gabby Walz attempts to maneuver around the Comp defense.



Ari Klekotka tries to balance the ball while being pursued by a Comp player.

GRANBY – Last Thursday, Ella Laliberte scored eight points, achieving her 100th career point in that span during a 10-5 win over Chicopee Comprehensive. Laliberte scored half of Granby's goals and assisted on three more. Ari Klekotka had two goals as Granby improved to 6-4.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Ella Laliberte charges for the goal. She scored her 100<sup>th</sup> point in a big game against Chicopee Comprehensive.



Goalie Liberty Conlin looks to make a pass after making a save.



Kelly Lynn Kennedy heads on a long run down the field.

### Pioneers take down Granby again | Orioles take down

TIM PETERSON

Sports Correspondent

GRANBY—The Granby boys lacrosse team entered the second meeting of the regular season with Suburban League rival Pathfinder looking to get into the win column for the first time.

The Pioneers, who squeaked out a 4-3 win in the first meeting, scored five first quarter goals en route to an 8-2 road victory over the Rams in a hard-fought physical battle, last Thursday afternoon.

"We go into every game thinking that we're going to win, but this is a very tough loss for us," said Granby senior goalie Nick Parker. "We did fall behind early in the game, but I thought we played much better during the second half."

Parker will be playing college football at Rochester University next fall.

The other seniors listed on the Granby roster are Steven Torres Jr., Gabe Arabik, and Michael Flaherty.

The Rams (0-10) will have one final chance to celebrate a victory against St. Mary's of Westfield in another home game on June 10.

The Pioneers (2-7) have three games remaining against Chicopee, Springfield Central, and Monson.

"It feels great to win our second game of the season against Granby," said first-year Pathfinder head coach Mike Himes. "It was very important for us to take an early lead in today's game."

The Pioneers first two goals of the match were scored by junior attack Cody Ferus during the first two minutes of the opening

See LAX, page 23 •



PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Eathan Farrar tries to go around a

defender.

# Pacers on 'senior night'

TIM PETERSON

Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN—Twentyfour hours after receiving their high school diplomas, the six seniors listed on the Belchertown boys volleyball roster celebrated senior day.

It turned out to be a very memorable afternoon for the seniors and their four teammates, as the Orioles defeated the Chicopee Pacers 3-1 (25-23, 25-21, 20-25, 25-12), lost Friday.

25-12), last Friday.

"It feels great to win our senior day match," said Belchertown head coach Chris Shea. "We had ten seniors last year, who didn't get to play any volleyball matches because of the once in a generation pandemic. We have six seniors on this year's squad, and they've dealt with a lot of chal-

lenges. All of the seniors are heading off to college in the fall and I'm very proud of them."

The six Belchertown seniors, who were honored during a post-match ceremony, are Raghav Suryanarayanan, Xavier Williams, Max Williams, Troy Pelletier, Thaddeus Wegrzyn, and Andrew Cowles, who's the only returning varsity volleyball player.

All six of the Orioles seniors played the entire first game. The three first time starters in that group were Wegrzyn and the Williams brothers.

"The six seniors have been committed to the volleyball team all season long and I wanted to start all of them in the first game," Shea said. "I just want them to feel like they accomplished some-

See ORIOLES, page 23 •

### SPORTS

# Pioneers continue win streak with shutout

TIM PETERSON

Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—It has been three years since an opposing USL League Two soccer team walked into Lusitano Stadium and defeated the Western Mass. Pioneers.

FC Malaga City made their first ever visit to the 103-year-old only soccer specific stadium in New England last Friday night, and it was a long trip back to Lagrangeville, New York for them.

The Pioneers, who scored three first half goals and added another one with the help of a Malaga City player, coasted to a 4-0 victory before a large crowd on a beautiful late spring evening.

"We scored a few early goals in tonight's game, which really helped us," said Pioneer's head coach Federico Molinari. "We always seem to play with a lot more confidence at home."

The Pioneers (4-1-1) played four of their five regular season matches on the road. The players were excited to be playing in front of their faithful supporters again.

"This is by far the best stadium and the best fans in our league," said starting forward Ignacio Lerech, who scored a goal and added an assist in the Pioneers first home win of the season. "I've played for two other USL-Two teams, but this team is like one big family. I'm very happy to be playing here this year."

Lerech, who's from Tucuman, Argentina, has scored a team-leading three goals this

When the Pioneers and Malaga City (1-4-1) faced each other for the first time on May 15, Lerech came off the bench and scored a late goal giving the Pioneers a 1-0

"That was my first game playing for this team and when I scored that goal late in the game, it was just an amazing feeling," said Lerech, who also scored a goal in a 2-0 win at AC Connecticut. "I just want to help my team win anyway that I can."

Another first-year Pioneers player is Patrick Agyemang, who scored his first goal of the season in the home opener against the Seacoast United Phantoms, which ended in a 1-1 draw on May 21.

Agyemang scored his second goal at Lusitano Stadium during the fifth minute of last Friday's match.

The scoring play began with Lerech sending a crossing pass to Agyemang on the right side. He then sprinted towards the goal before firing a low shot into the left corner past goalie Daniel Atherton.

"It was a great feeling scoring a goal in



Declan Sung goes after a 50/50 ball.

of depth, which is very important."

the season with injuries.

the season.

own goal.

Pioneers lead to 3-0.

front of the home fans," said Agyemang,

who's from East Hartford, Conn. "We

played with a lot of energy right from the

start of tonight's game. We also have a lot

The Pioneers managed to post their third

shutout of the season without two key

starters. Maxi Viera, who's the Pioneers

captain, and Connor Hicks, who's from

Monson, sat out the second home match of

chemistry during the first six matches of

together at practice. The hard work paid off

for us in tonight's game," Agyemang said.

took a 2-0 lead when the ball deflected off

a Malaga City defender into the net for an

a pass from defender Carlos Emery and

chipped a shot over two defenders into

the left corner of the net increasing the

in the opening half, Agyemang sent a pass

from the left end line into the box where

defender Jordan Koduak knocked the ball

into the back of the net giving the home

With less than five minutes remaining

A couple of minutes later, the Pioneers

During the 26th minute, Lerech received

'We're starting to gel as a team."

Agyemang and Lerech have built a good

"Ignacio and I have been working

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

team a commanding 4-0 lead.

It was Koduak's second goal of the sea-

"It's always nice to have a 4-0 halftime lead," Molinari said. "You do have to worry about your team relaxing a little bit in the second half with a big lead. We just need to keep improving in every game.'

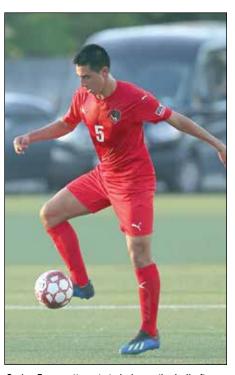
Down at the other end of the field, Blake Mullen didn't have to make any saves in recording his third shutout of the season.

The dynamic duo of Agyemang and Lerech were replaced by Guilermo Deal and Khalid Rose twenty minutes into the

With ten minutes remaining in regulation, Evan Fournier, who graduated from Belchertown High School in 2019, made his first appearance for the Pioneers at Lusitano Stadium. His only shot attempt of match sailed over the crossbar.

"Evan has been on our roster since the beginning of the regular season. We were able to give him the opportunity to get some playing time during the second half of tonight's game," Molinari said. "It's always nice to have the local soccer players on your team."

The Pioneers will be looking to continue their winning ways at Lusitano Stadium when they host AC Connecticut at 7:30 on Friday night.



Carlos Emery attempts to balance the ball after receiving a pass



Marco Valero Perez sends a quick pass away.

### LAX • from page 22

quarter. The first goal by Ferus was assisted by senior midfielder Ethan Farrar. His second goal was unassisted.

A couple of minutes later, the visiting team took a 3-0 lead following a goal by senior midfielder Nick Beaulieu.

The other seniors listed on the Pathfinder roster besides Farrar and Beaulieu are Ryan Caron, Edmond Cousineau, Colin Gunter-Donaghy, Kieran Moe, and Ethan Roberts.

We do have a large senior class this year," Himes said. "They'll be very hard to replace next year. We'll need to add a few new players to our team."

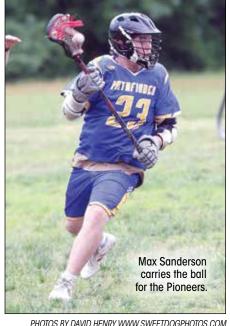
The home team got on the scoreboard for the first time when freshman attack Connor McDonnell bounced a shot into the cage past Pathfinder junior goalie Andrew Hurst for an unassisted goal with 6:11 remaining in the first quarter.

Four minutes later, Farrar scored a manup goal and Beaulieu also scored a goal with a little more than a minute left in the first quarter giving the Pioneers a 5-1 lead.

Neither team scored a goal during the second stanza, as the Rams failed to close

Four minutes into the third quarter, Arabik fired a shot into the cage cutting the Rams deficit to 5-2.

Farrar scored another goal for visiting team with 1:17 left in the third quarter giving the Pioneers a four-goal lead again at



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

With 8:42 remaining in regulation, Ferus recorded a hat-trick with an unassisted goal.

"It was Cody's first hat-trick of the season," Himes said. "It was an exciting game for him. It also felt nice to come out on top

The Pioneers final goal of the match was scored by Beaulieu late in the fourth quarter.

### **ORIOLES** • from page 22

thing great this season."

The senior day victory improved the Orioles overall record to 5-4.

The Pacers (1-6) only had six players n the road match against the Orioles. but it was a hard-fought battle in the first three games, which could've easily gone either way.

"This was one of the better matches that we've played this season," said Chicopee head coach Donald Turgeon. "Even though we lost, my guys played very hard from start to finish.

The four Chicopee seniors, who played against Belchertown, are Jarell Bess, Treshawn Downie, Nathaniel Lambertus, and Omar Martori.

"You couldn't ask for a better group of guys," Turgeon said. "They always work hard at practice and they do the best that they can in our matches.

The Pacers other two starters were sophomore's Mohammed Mutar and Moises Rodriguez.

The score was tied 4-4 in the opening game before the Pacers scored the next four points with Rodriguez handling the serving duty. The Pacers, who were led by Martori, managed to hold onto a slim lead until late in the opening game.

The Orioles tied the score at 21-21 following a kill by Suryanarayanan. He also did the serving for the next two points

won by the Orioles including an ace. The teams would trade points before the Orioles won the game with another kill.

Just like the first game, the second game was also very close.

An ace by Belchertown sophomore William Hill tied the score at 19-19. The home team then put-together a 5-0 spurt giving them a 24-19 advantage.

Chicopee kept their hopes alive by winning the next two points before a kill by sophomore Ty Bogdanovich gave the Orioles a 2-0 lead in the match.

The other sophomore listed on the Belchertown roster is Connor White.

After the score was tied 1-1 in the third game, the Pacers didn't relinquish the lead the rest of the way, which kept the senior day match going a little bit longer.

Mortori, who's the Pacers returning varsity player, played a key role with several kills and blocks in that game.

"Omar plays in several different volleyball leagues throughout the year," Turgeon said. "He's a very talented volleyball player."

Any thoughts Chicopee had of evening the match at 2-2 didn't last very long, as the Orioles built a double-digit lead in the fourth game and coasted home.

The Orioles seniors are hoping to keep playing volleyball matches together for the next couple of weeks before going in different directions.

### SPORTS

# Perry, Bryne gets wins at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. - Nutmeg State teen Jacob Perry copped the biggest prize Saturday, June 5, at Monadnock Speedway, winning the 100-lap Modified Racing Series main event while, on the same card, three other drivers earned their first victory lap of the summer.

NHSTRA Modified strongman Ben Byrne won his 40-lap feature, Justin Littlewood stormed to victory in the Late Model Sportsman, and Jake Bosse, who started the season as a Young Gun, earned his career-first Pure Stock win.

Mini Stock ace Gordon Farnum soared into the points lead with his second 2021 feature win, while Street Stocker Tommy O'Sullivan and Young Gun Fast Eddie Petruskevicious also won for the second

Hometrack hot shoe Kirk Alexander – he of 31 MRS feature victories - started on row one in the night's main event, taking the lead from polesitter Ryan Doucette on lap four and then setting his sights on duplicating his victory of 18 years ago when the Series debuted here on the high

Russ Hersey would reel Alexander in and for a while it seemed like old home day in the Milton Cat 100. The kid from Connecticut, though, Jacob Perry, had other ideas, taking charge just past mid-race and then leading open-wheel stalwarts Tommy Barrett and Ronnie Williams under the checkers. Hometracker Matt Kimball came home fourth, and Alexander rounded out the top five.

Ben Byrne took control of the NHSTRA Modified main on lap three and never looked back. This was a wild one. Matt Kimball claimed the deuce, while Trevor Bleau marched forward twice to come home third aboard the Gomarlo 76 ride.

Aaron Fellows, like Bleau, recovered from earlier excitement to come home fourth. Kimmy Rivet was fifth, while points leader Todd Patnode was bounced around for 13th on the night.

Brehio's strong run netted him runner-up honors, while youthful strongman Cam Curtis struggled with tire issues all night before claiming third when Robert Hagar, Ryan Currier, and Hayden Scott finished the show in a turn-two heap.

Tommy O'Sullivan charged from row six in the Street Stock main to take charge on lap 14 and then storm away to duplicate his opening night feature win. Strong and steady Paul Smith was the silver medallist, Nate Wenzel came home third, while points leader Chris Buffone struggled in tenth.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ben Bryne was a winner in the 40-lap event at Monadnock last weekend.

Mini Stock musclemen Gordon Farnum and Ray King started side-by-side again, this week firing from row four. Farnum took the lead from Kevin Clayton and blasted off to his second win of the summer and, with it, passed King for the points

Clayton completed his rock-solid outing in second, with potent Kevin Cormier coming home third.

Just three weeks ago, Jake Bosse was just a kid winning a couple of Young Guns

Saturday, the Greenfield, N.H. youth speedster took the Pure Stock lead from Cory Lofland on lap two and sped away to his career-first win, keeping 50-yearsyoung star Chris Davis in his shadow the final 11 laps. JD Stockwell was strong in

Fast Eddie Petruskevicious led all the way in the caution-free Young Guns 15. He was joined in trophy row by Teagan Edson and Leilei Daniels.

Next Saturday, June 12, the NHSTRA Modifieds will run twin 35-lap Quest For The Cup events atop a full card of racing at Monadnock Speedway. For more information, please visit www.monadnockspeed-

### **MONADNOCK SPEEDWAY JUNE 5:**

M.R.S. MILTON CAT 100 (Top 10): Jacob Perry, Tommy Barrett, Ronnie Williams, Matt Kimball, Kirk Alexander, Cory Plummer, Kyle James, Donnie Lashua, Cam Sontag, Nathan Wenzel.

NHSTRA MODIFIEDS: Ben Byrne,

Matthew Kimball, Trevor Bleau, Aaron Fellows, Kimberley Rivet, Cory Plummer, Christopher Jackman, Eric LeClair, Kirby Goodrich, Tyler Leary, Scott MacMichael, 44-Brian Chapin, Todd Patnode, Solomon Brow, Cameron Sontag, Dave Salzarulo, James Cloutier, Cameron Houle

LATE MODEL SPORTSMEN (UNOFFICIAL): Justin Littlewood, Austin Brehio, Camdyn Curtis, Chase Curtis, Dan Comeau, Ryan Currier, Hayden Scott, Robert Hagar, Cole Littlewood, Nancy Muni Ruot.

STREET STOCKS: Tommy O'Sullivan, Paul Smith, Nathan Wenzel, Jason Kozacka, Hillary Renaud, Mike Radzuik, Greg Williams, Chris Lindquist, Joe Arena, Chris Buffone, Keith Johnson, Nathaniel Nunez, Timothy Wenzel, Rupert Thompson, Leighton Lutz

MINI STOCKS: Gordon Farnum, Kevin Clayton, Kevin Cormier, Louie Maher, Jeff Asselin, Kevin McKnight, Jake Puchalski, Ricky Whipple, Josh Hubbard, Bill Chaffee, Jeff Heath, Matthew Lambert, Raymond King, Deion Russell, (DNS) Tim LeBlanc, (DNS Michael Douglas

PURE STOCKS: Jake Bosse, Chris Davis, JD Stockwell, Cory Lofland, Jason LeRay, Jimmy Zellman, Nick Houle, Carter Chamberlin, Billy Graham, Ryan Lawliss, Damien Houle, Kyle Robinson Newell, (DNS) Nathan Roy

YOUNG GUNS: Eddie Petruskevicious, Teagan Edson, Leilei Daniels, Eddie Gomarlo, Jeff Moffat Jr., Aaliyah Tacy, Dominick Stafford.

# 'SuperFan' exhibit on display at Hall

SPRINGFIELD - The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame recently hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony following its \$25+ million museum refurbishment which launched in 2017. Among the newest exhibits is the James F. Goldstein SuperFan Gallery – a space dedicated to celebrating the most iconic fans of the game including Toronto's Nav Bhatia, Los Angeles's late SuperFan Penny Marshall and Jimmy Goldstein

"The Basketball Hall of Fame is distinct in that we celebrate all levels and aspects of the game for both men and women," said John Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. "We are excited to recognize the game's greatest SuperFans in this unique exhibit showcasing their memorabilia and custom attire they've become known for at games. In tribute to all fans of the game, through their support and fanfare, SuperFans have certainly played a role in the game for many years. We look forward to continuing to recognize additional SuperFans in the years to come."

Items on display in the exhibit include:

- · Jimmy Goldstein iconic apparel and momentous tickets and credentials from his many years as a SuperFan
- · Nav Bhatia turban, SuperFan Jersey and courtside chair
- · Penny Marshall collection of signed jerseys and shoes
- · SuperFan stories and images shared through digitized media

"The game of basketball has brought me so much joy over the years, in Los Angeles and in the countless arenas around the world I've been fortunate to experience," said Jimmy Goldstein, NBA SuperFan. "I'm proud to share some of my most favorite items I've collected over the years and be featured in this remarkable exhibit dedicated to the fans."

The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and James F. Goldstein SuperFan Gallery are now open to the public. For more information, please call the Basketball Hall of Fame's Ticket Office at (413) 231-5513 or visit www. hoophall.com.

# **Falmouth Road Race to** resume, event set for Aug. 15

FALMOUTH - Falmouth Road Race, field of 8,000 in-person runners for the Inc., organizers of the 49th Annual ASICS Falmouth Road Race, one of America's premier running events of the summer season, today announced that it will host a field of 8.000 in-person runners for its upcoming event on Sunday,

Those who registered during the initial registration window and selected, "If given the chance, I would like to run in Falmouth" will be guaranteed a place within the limited in-person field. Runners who have not yet registered but are looking to secure a guaranteed in-person spot in this year's event can do so by registering to run on behalf of a charity. A comprehensive list of 164 charitable organizations is available by visiting www.falmouthroadrace.com/charity-program. For more information on general registration, please visit www.falmouthroadrace.com.

"On the heels of Governor Charlie Baker's announcement lifting all coronavirus restrictions in Massachusetts effective May 29, and after close consultation with the Town of Falmouth, public safety officials, our medical team, and our partners, we are excited to announce a 49th ASICS Falmouth Road Race," said Scott Ghelfi, president of the Falmouth Road Race, Inc. Board of Directors. "We are excited to welcome athletes back to Falmouth for this summer tradition and we look forward to welcoming a full field for our 50th running next August."

Aside from the newly announced in-person portion, the 49th ASICS Falmouth Road Race will still feature a virtual SBLI Kids At-Home Challenge and the race's At-Home Edition, where participants will lace up their running shoes and go seven miles in their own neighborhoods between Aug. 7 to 14.

For nearly 50 years, Falmouth Road Race, Inc. has promoted health, wellness and pride in the community. In these unprecedented and uncertain times, the organization is striving to be consistent in its mission, continuing to provide its dedicated athletes, enthusiasts, and the community with an event to be proud of and one that supports people in need.

For more information, or to register, visit www.falmouthroadrace.com. Follow us on Facebook or at @falmouthroadrace on Instagram.

### Sign up for Quabbin Valley Baseball

REGION - The Quabbin Valley Baseball League is an age 28-and-over league which plays its games Sundays at 10 a.m. beginning in late April and concluding in late August. It is a six-team league and a 15-game schedule with all teams getting at least one playoff game at the end of August.

The league is seeking new players to join in the fun. The cost to play in 2021 is \$192.50 and registration can be found at www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org. Games are mostly being played this year in Easthampton and South Hadley. Players who wish to pitch in the league must be 30-years-old.

Sign-ups will continue to be open as the league still has open roster spots for new

players. Players who sign up in the first few weeks of the season should be able to be placed with a team.

The league's first games are scheduled for Sunday, April 25. For the 2021 season, there is a mask-wearing rule, as well as modifications that prohibit any type of spitting or close contact, and players are required to take out all trash they bring in with them. The league allows the use of BBCOR-certified -3 bats as well as wood bats. Games are nine innings and all players who participate get to hit and play the field. For more information or to contact someone from the league, go to the league's

### Pioneers announce tryouts for youth teams

LUDLOW - The Western United Pioneers organization has announced the 2021 tryouts. WUP FC is excited to hold 2021-2022 season tryouts. Tryouts are for boys and girls of all age groups (2016 - 2003 birth years). For players born from 2014 - 2017, we welcome you to come visit our open house to sign up for the Developmental Academy Program (2014-2016) and the First Kick Program (no need to try out for 2017).

This registration session will allow you to complete contact information, and sign up for participation. Please read through each page carefully to ensure that all information is provided accurately. Each player should bring water, a ball, shin guards, and wear a white or grey shirt.

Go to www.westernunitedpioneers.sportngin.com to look for registration information and the full tryout schedule.

### **SAFETY TIPS** • from page 8

just given it a tune up and was mowing the lawn when he saw flames coming out from under the hood.

On May 30, 2020, at 7:35 p.m., the Leominster Fire Department responded to a lawn mower fire in a back yard. The lawn mower backfired as it was being shut down and caught fire.

On July 24, 2020, at 12:51 p.m., the Northbridge Fire Department responded to a garden tractor fire in a backyard. The gas tank had recently been filled and the fire started shortly after starting.

### Gasoline and outdoor fires

"Never use gasoline to start a campfire or add it to any indoor or outdoor fire," said Ostroskey. "We have had so many injuries this year from people mishandling gasoline and other flammable liquids." In the past five years (2016 – 2020), Massachusetts hospitals have reported treating 137 people with serious burn injuries from gasoline.

On Friday, July 24, 2020, a 43-year old Lanesborough woman was severely burned over 70% of her body surface area when pouring gasoline onto a campfire.

On Sunday, July 19, 2020, a 39-year old Lawrence woman received burns to multiple parts of her body when someone poured gasoline onto a barbeque.

### **Smoking safety**

Smoking was the leading cause of fire deaths in Massachusetts last year, and there have been many fires this spring from improperly discarded smoking materials on porches and in backyards. These fires can smolder undetected for a long time and when they erupt into flames, they travel fast. If they start on the exterior of the building, these fires can get a strong hold before the interior smoke alarms start to warn anyone of the danger.

"If you allow smoking on your property, provide appropriate receptacles for discarding smoking materials: a deep ashtray, a can with sand or water. Don't let people toss smoking materials into the mulch, leaves, grass, potted plants or other containers that can catch fire. Don't let them stub them out on the porch railing or stairs," said Ostroskey. "Be a responsible smoker. Remember to put it out, all the way, every time."

On Feb., 2021, at 12:30 a.m., the Milford Fire Department responded to a fire at a single-family home. The fire was started by a cigarette on a rear porch. Two people were injured at this fire. Smoke alarms alerted the occupants. The home did not have sprinklers and damages were estimated to be \$270,000.

On March 18, 2021, the Carlisle Fire

Department was called to a smoking fire in a single-family home. A cigarette ignited a porch rug. Smoke alarms alerted the occupants and no one was injured. There were no fire sprinklers and damages were estimated to be \$110,000.

On April 19, 2020 a fire in two apartment buildings in New Bedford killed two men, ages 40 and 49. It also displaced 40 other residents of two buildings. The fire was started in an alley way by smoking materials that were dropped from an upper floor landing in and igniting trash and debris near

#### Fireworks fires increase

"The possession and use of all fireworks by private citizens is illegal in Massachusetts," Ostroskey said. This includes sparklers, party poppers, snappers, firecrackers and cherry bombs, and more. "Leave fireworks to the professionals, and enjoy supervised displays," he said. "It is illegal to purchase fireworks in another state and transport them into or possess them in Massachusetts," he added. Last year, fires from fireworks increased 180% from 2019.

Around 11 p.m. on June 14, 2020, the Worcester Fire Department responded to a fire in a three-decker started by illegal fireworks. People were shooting off fireworks in the neighborhood and one landed on and ignited the roof. Eleven people were displaced from their home. Smoke alarms failed to operate and damages were estimated to be \$145,739.

On Monday Aug. 10, 2020, the Orange Fire Department and several surrounding communities responded to a brush fire on Tully Mountain in Orange. It took several days to put out in the rugged terrain amid hot and humid weather. Remnants of fireworks and a campfire were found at the seat

On July 20, 2020, at 12:30 p.m., a 43-year old Turners Falls man suffered a serious leg injury from illegal fireworks.

On July 9, 2019, a 4-year old Boston girl grabbed a burning sparkler that someone else was holding and received burns to her left hand.

In the past decade (2011-2020), there have been 941 major fires and explosions involving illegal fireworks in Massachusetts. These incidents resulted in 12 civilian injuries, 42 fire service injuries and an estimated dollar loss of \$2.1 million.

### Burn first aid

· Stop, drop, cover and roll to extinguish a clothing fire.

Cool a burn. For minor burns, run cool water over the burn immediately.

Seek emergency medical help immediately for more serious burns. Call 9-1-1.

### ■ OBITUARY

### **Mary Geddes Avery**

BELCHERTOWN - Mary Geddes Avery, 93, passed away peacefully on March 9, 2021.

Mary grew up in Daytona Beach, FL, and spent her summers at Lake Chautauqua, NY, before attending Emerson College in Boston. Following college Mary moved to Tucson, AZ, where she worked in television before marrying Richard Thomas

and beginning to raise her family. They then moved to Solana Beach, CA, and in the early 1970s Mary returned to Massachusetts and married Jack Avery. Mary lived in Belchertown until November 2015, when she moved to assisted living in the San Diego area, enabling her daughters to be closer to her and to help with her dementia care in her final years.

Those who knew Mary knew a warm, vivacious, caring and fun woman. Her passions in life were her family, friends, travel and singing. Her travels took her to places such as Antarctica, Alaska, Europe, Iceland, the Caribbean, the Panama Canal, and her repeat favorites Hawaii and Branson, MO. For decades Mary sang in her church choir and was a Sweet Adeline (women's Barbershop) - it didn't take much to get Mary to break out singing when gathered with any of her Sweet Ad friends! If you knew her, you would remember her. As many have said "to know Mary was to love Mary!

Mary was predeceased by her parents, Paul and Betty Geddes; her husband, the "love of her life" Jack Avery; and stepdaughter, Josie Avery. She leaves behind her daughters: Carol (Thomas) Letterman and Karen (Thomas) Sanchez, and stepson Scott and daughter-inlaw Susan Avery; six grandchildren: Cristina, Vince, Matt, Josh, Sarah, and Leah; three great-granddaughters: Caitlin, Hannah, and Kailani; and two great-great grandchildren: Blake and Camila; as well as cousins and many friends. She will be dearly missed by many.

A celebration of Mary's Life will be held Saturday, June 26, at 11 a.m. at Hope United Methodist Church in Belchertown with a reception to follow at the church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Mary's memory be made to either: Emerson College in Boston, Sweet Adeline's International, or Hope United Methodist Church in Belchertown.

### **Death Notice**

Mary Avery Died: March 9, 2021 Celebration of Life June 26 at 11 a.m. Hope United Methodist Church, Belchertown

### The Sentinel OBITUARY POLICY

**Turley Publications** offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

### **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries**

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

### CISA • from page 5

localfood.org/hip-map, is accessible via smartphone or laptop. When a user enters their location, a list of HIP businesses open during that month appears, sorted by distance. The listing for each business gives essential information such as hours, address, phone number, email, and website, and a brief description of the business. The customer can see if the business sells vegetables, fruits, or both. As the busy summer season approaches, the map will continue to be populated with businesses as they open.

HIP customers can earn \$40 to \$80 of extra SNAP every single month at HIPauthorized farmers' markets, farm stands, and CSAs. For HIP customers in the Pioneer Valley, this map will make finding open HIP vendors faster and simpler.

The Healthy Incentives Program is a great benefit available to Massachusetts SNAP recipients. The HIP Map provides another resource to increase the use of HIP across the valley, and to connect customers with the local farmers who grow their food. To learn more about HIP and access the HIP Map, visit buylocalfood. org/hip-map.

CISA is a nationally recognized organization of farmers, community members, and advocates working together to strengthen farms and engage the community to build the local food economy. Working in western Massachusetts and the region for over 25 years, CISA offers assistance to farmers, provides farm shares for low-income seniors, and runs the nation's oldest agricultural "buy local" campaign - "Be a Local Hero, Buy Locally Grown." Find out more about our work to double the amount of local food in our diets at buylocalfood.org or call 413-665-7100. CISA is an equal opportunity provider."

### LIBRARY • from page 21

### July 20 to 30 Knight Training

StoryWalk – "Zog"
Hear ye, hear ye, it's knights and princesses vs. dragons. Decorate a shield crest with your own special symbols and create a dragon mask. This week we will raffle off six sword and armor sets.

### Aug. 3 to 13 Gnomes StoryWalk - "Go Gnome or Go Home"

Create a wooden gnome door, go on a gnome hunt, scratch up some forest art and give a gnome a yarn beard.

### Aug. 10 to 13 is Shark Week!

Check out shark themed books/dvds this week and receive a raffle ticket for the Shark Week prize basket for each book/ dvd you check out. Pick up a "Name that Tail" sheet and identify the types of sharks by their tails and you'll earn another raffle

### **Summer Program for Pre-readers**

If you have a preschooler/pre-reader, the library staff recommend that you sign up for Preschooler/Pre-reader Program with biweekly literacy based "Preschool Summer Packs," rather than the Imagination Kits this summer. The weekly "Preschool Summer Packs" will have a different early literacy component every two weeks - puppets, crafts...

Play and learn at Granby Library's in-person outdoor playgroups this Summer Join for safe, outdoor weekly playgroups at the Granby Library beginning on June 16. You must sign up for a 45 min. time slot to attend; time slots are 10 and 11 a.m. There will be a limit of four families/ groups per time slot.

Sanitizers will be provided, social distancing and safety measures will be taken and there will be no shared materials.

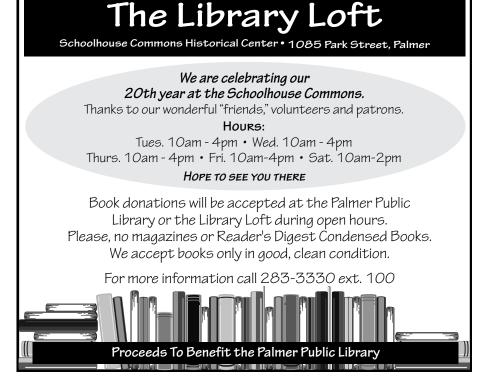
The library's Playgroup Facilitator, Marti Wiechman, is a resource for parenting skills and techniques. Wiechman has some great outdoor activities planned this sum-

The Granby Library Playgroup is funded by EEC and the CFCE grant (Coordinated Family and Community Engagement.)

Sign up for a time slot at the library or by phone 467-3320 during open library

The library must cancel the outdoor playgroup in the event of inclement weath-

This not a complete list of activities, visit granbylibrary.com and Granby Library's Children's Room Page on Facebook for





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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

SNOW'S SELF STORAGE LLC. will sell at Public Auction at 746 Bay Road, Belchertown, MA, all the personal property stored in its facility by:

Tanner Gregory - RB7 At 10:00 a.m., Monday, June 21, 2021, at the premises of SNOW'S SELF STORAGE LLC, 746 Bay Road, Belchertown, MA, by Warren Schreiber,



Auctioneer, as Agent for Snow's Self Storage, LLC.

Snow's Self-Storage reserves the following rights: to bid at the public auction, to refuse any and all bids, or to cancel the auction at any time for any reason.

06/03, 06/10/2021

NOTICE OF **PUBILC AUCTION** 

SNOW'S SELF STORAGE LLC, will sell at Public Auction at 746 Bay Road, Belchertown, MA, all the personal property stored in its facility by:

Wendy Bailey – M12 Mosheh Roller – OCC2-20 Mosheh Roller – OCC2-21

At 10:00 am, Monday, July 12, 2021, at the premises of SNOW'S SELF STORAGE LLC, 746

Bay Road, Belchertown, MA, by Warren Schreiber, Auctioneer, as Agent for Snow's Self Storage, LLC.

Snow's Self-Storage reserves the following rights: to bid at the public auction, to refuse any and all bids, or to cancel the auction at any time for any reason. 06/10, 06/17/2021

> LEGAL NOTICE **Authority -**MGL Chapter 111 sec. 31 and 122 Purpose -

1. Educate the public that the mask mandate by Governor's order has been replaced with a MA DPH Public Health Advisory

2. Counsel the unvaccinated (whether by personal choice, age restriction, or medical reasons) that the wearing of face coverings in public and social distancing from non-household members is still advised to help prevent contracting or spreading COVID-19

Regulation - All buildings, indoor programs, or indoor events in the Town of Belchertown that are open to the public shall prominently display or otherwise distribute to customers or participants the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health "ADVISORY REGARDING FACE COVERINGS AND CLOTH MASKS'

To be effective upon date of publication until rescind-06/10/2021

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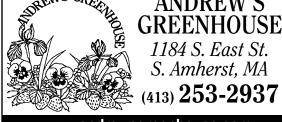
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